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SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE

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SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE

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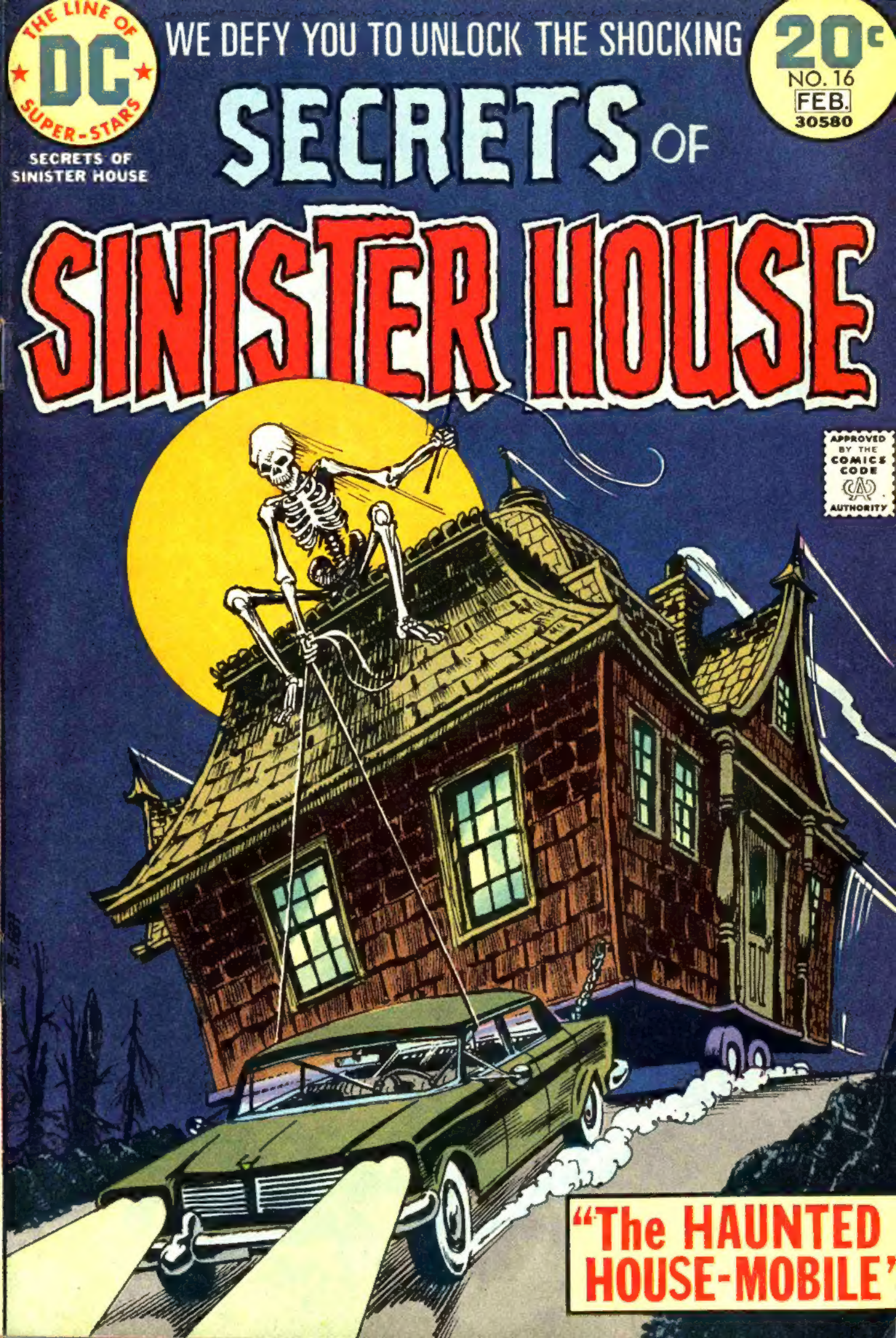

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IN NEWSTEAD ABBEY, ENGLAND, A MYSTERIOUS MONK SOMETIMES DRAGS AN EMPTY COFFIN THROUGH THE RUINS! HIS APPEARANCE ALWAYS SPELLED DEATH FOR THE FAMILY OF THE FAMED POET, LORD BYRON!
SURRATT INN NEAR WASHINGTON, D.C., WAS THE PLACE WHERE JOHN WILKES BOOTH AND HIS FELLOW CONSPIRATORS PLANNED TO KILL ABRAHAM LINCOLN! TO THIS DAY, MEN SAY CONSPIRATORS ARE STILL SEEN IN ITS BALEFUL SHADOWS!
THE MOLDY SKULL OF A YOUNG GIRL LIES SEALED WITHIN THE WALLS OF BURTON AGNES HALL IN YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND! REMOVE IT, AND HER ANGRY SPECTER WILL RETURN TO HAUNT THE MANSION!

SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE, Vol. 4, No. 16, Jan.-Feb., 1974. Published bi-monthly by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019. Carmine Infantino, Publisher, Murray Boltinoff, Editor, Sol Harrison, Vice-President—Production Manager, Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwarz & Co., Inc., 16 West 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036. Copyright © 1973 by National Periodical Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

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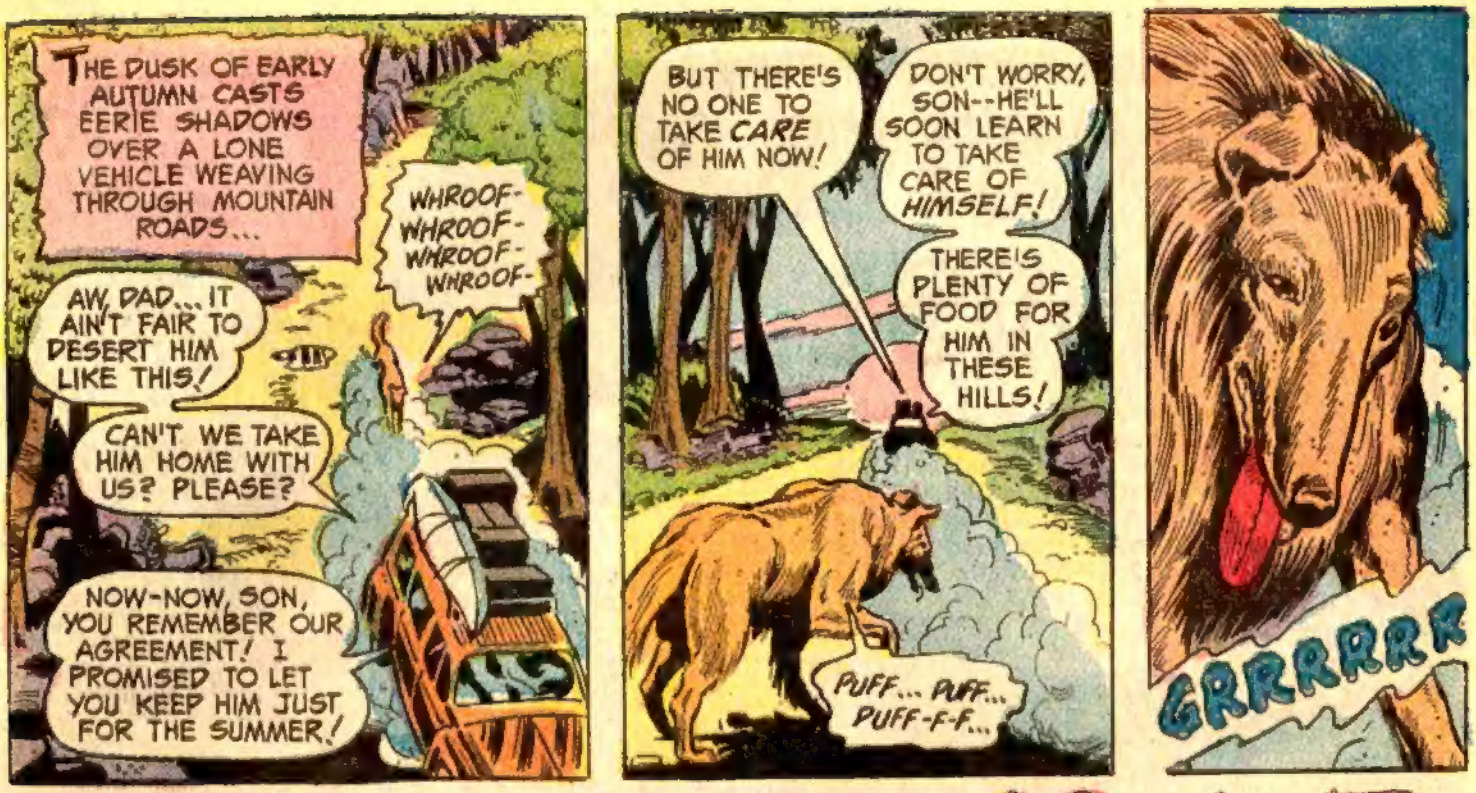
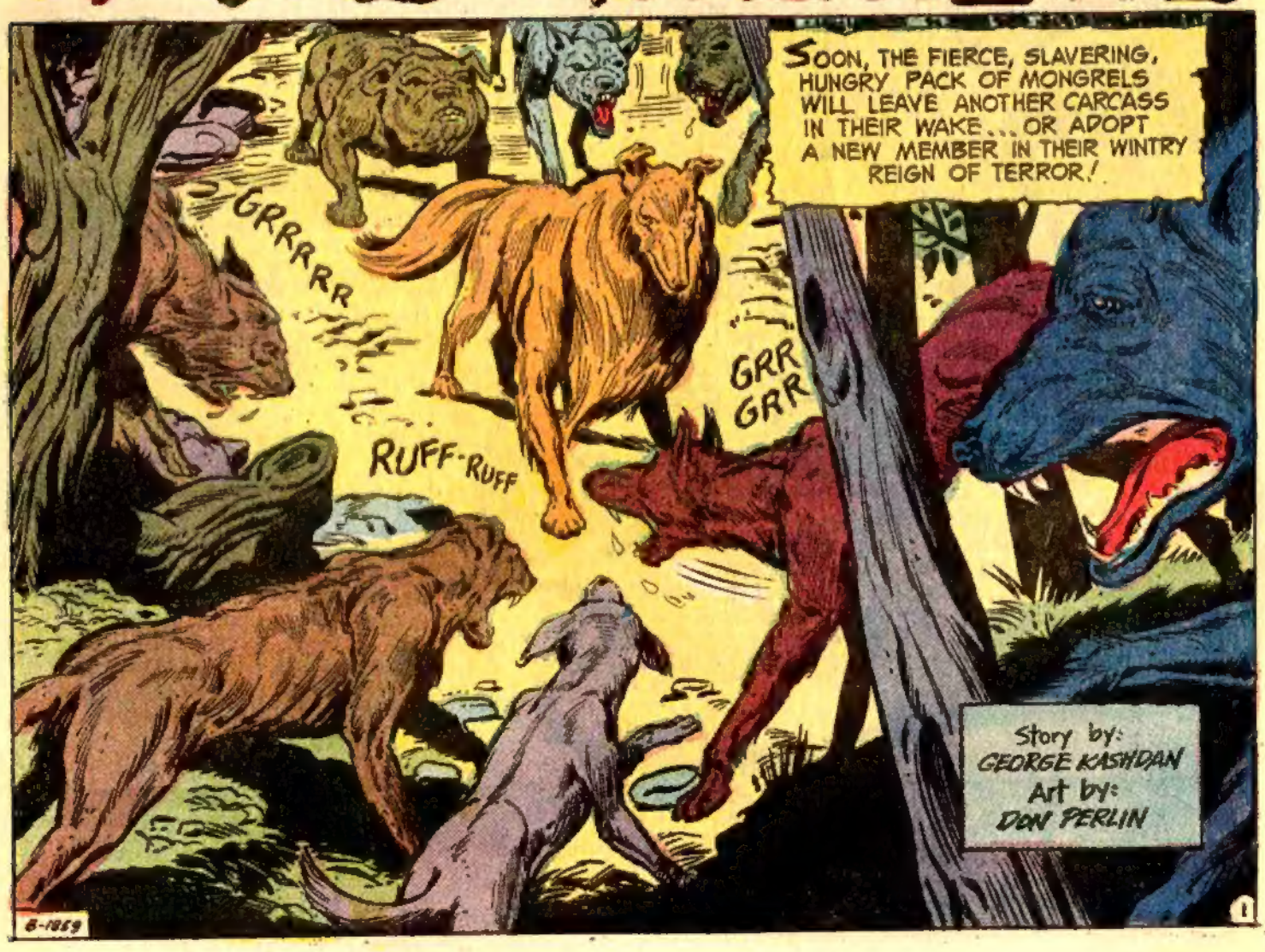
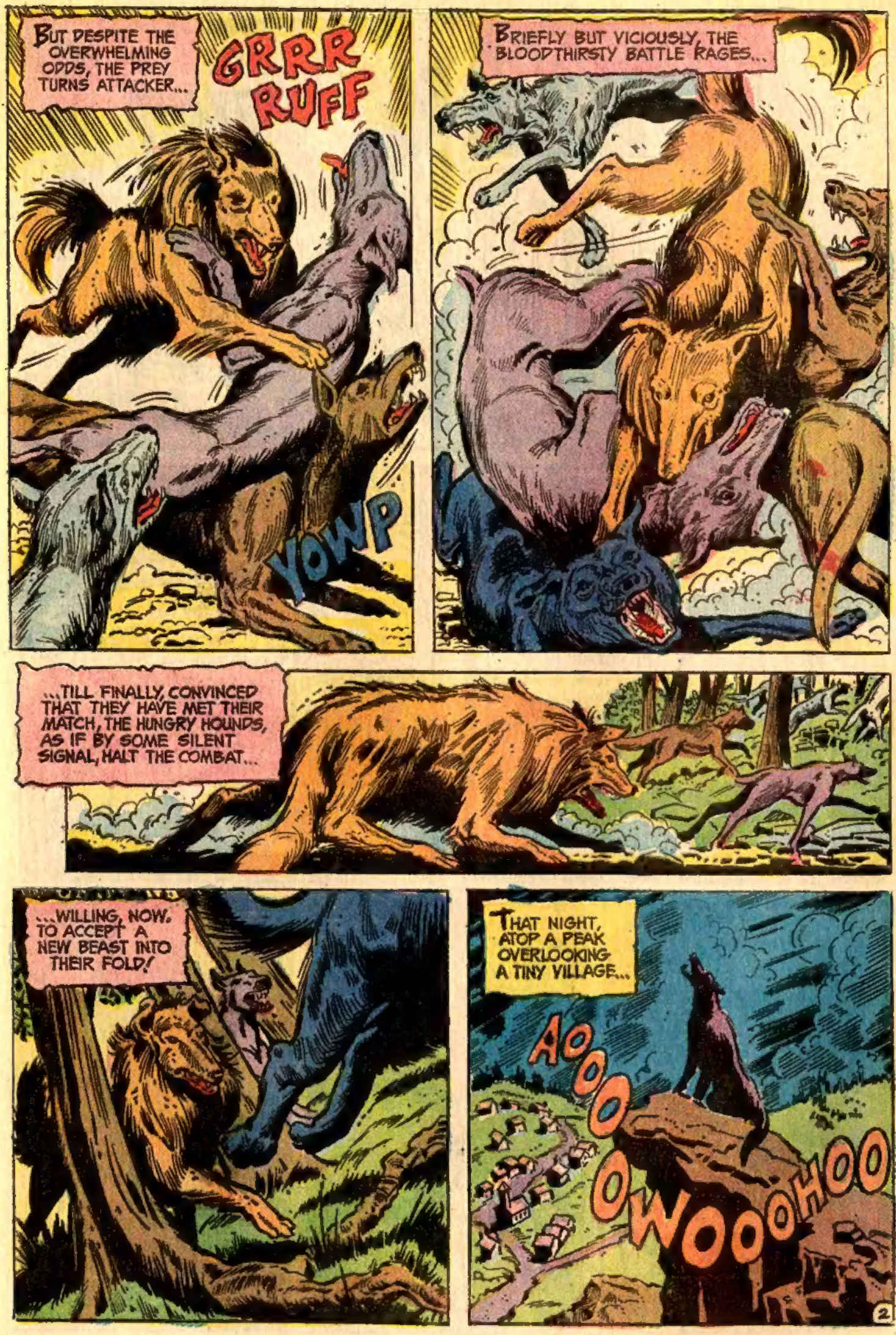

THE DUSK OF EARLY AUTUMN CASTS EERIE SHADOWS OVER A LONE VEHICLE WEAVING THROUGH MOUNTAIN ROADS...
WHROOF-WHROOF-WHROOF-
AW, DAD... IT AIN'T FAIR TO DESERT HIM LIKE THIS!
CAN'T WE TAKE HIM HOME WITH US? PLEASE?
NOW-NOW, SON, YOU REMEMBER OUR AGREEMENT! I PROMISED TO LET YOU KEEP HIM JUST FOR THE SUMMER!
BUT THERE'S NO ONE TO TAKE CARE OF HIM NOW!
DON'T WORRY, SON--HE'LL SOON LEARN TO TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF!
THERE'S PLENTY OF FOOD FOR HIM IN THESE HILLS!
PUFF... PUFF... PUFF-F-F...
GRRRRRR

HOUND YOU TO YOUR GRAVE


SOON, THE FIERCE, SLAVERING, HUNGRY PACK OF MONGRELS WILL LEAVE ANOTHER CARCASS IN THEIR WAKE... OR ADOPT A NEW MEMBER IN THEIR WINTRY REIGN OF TERROR!
GRRRRR
RUFF-RUFF
GRR GRR
Story by: GEORGE KASHDAN
Art by: DON PERLIN
8-1969


BUT DESPITE THE OVERWHELMING ODDS, THE PREY TURNS ATTACKER...
GRRR
RUFF
YOWP
BRIEFLY BUT VICIOUSLY, THE BLOODTHIRSTY BATTLE RAGES...
...TILL FINALLY, CONVINCED THAT THEY HAVE MET THEIR MATCH, THE HUNGRY HOUNDS, AS IF BY SOME SILENT SIGNAL, HALT THE COMBAT...
...WILLING, NOW, TO ACCEPT A NEW BEAST INTO THEIR FOLD!
THAT NIGHT, ATOP A PEAK OVERLOOKING A TINY VILLAGE...
AOOO
OWOOOHOO
2

LIKE A SIGNAL OF THE HORROR TO FOLLOW, THE NERVE-SHATTERING WAILS SEND BLIND, NAKED FEAR THROUGH THE COMMUNITY...
OOOO
OOW
QUICKLY! INTO THE HOUSE!
A LOT OF GOOD RIFLES DO! BUT WE GOT TO KEEP TRYIN'!
OWHO
DON'T WORRY, MOTHER...I WON'T LET NOTHIN' HAPPEN TO YOU!
MOMENTS LATER COMES THE INVASION OF FURRED FURY...
WROOF ROWWRF
RAAF RAAF RAAF
BAM BAM
KEEP YOUR DISTANCE...DON'T GET TOO NEAR 'EM!
YAAAH-HHHH-
ARRRR
SWIFTLY THE WILD MONGRELS PRESS THEIR ADVANTAGE...
HELP! SOMEONE!
BAM
BAM
GET 'EM OFF ME!
...FINALLY TO LEAVE BEHIND A MANGLED, LIFELESS FORM...
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.
3

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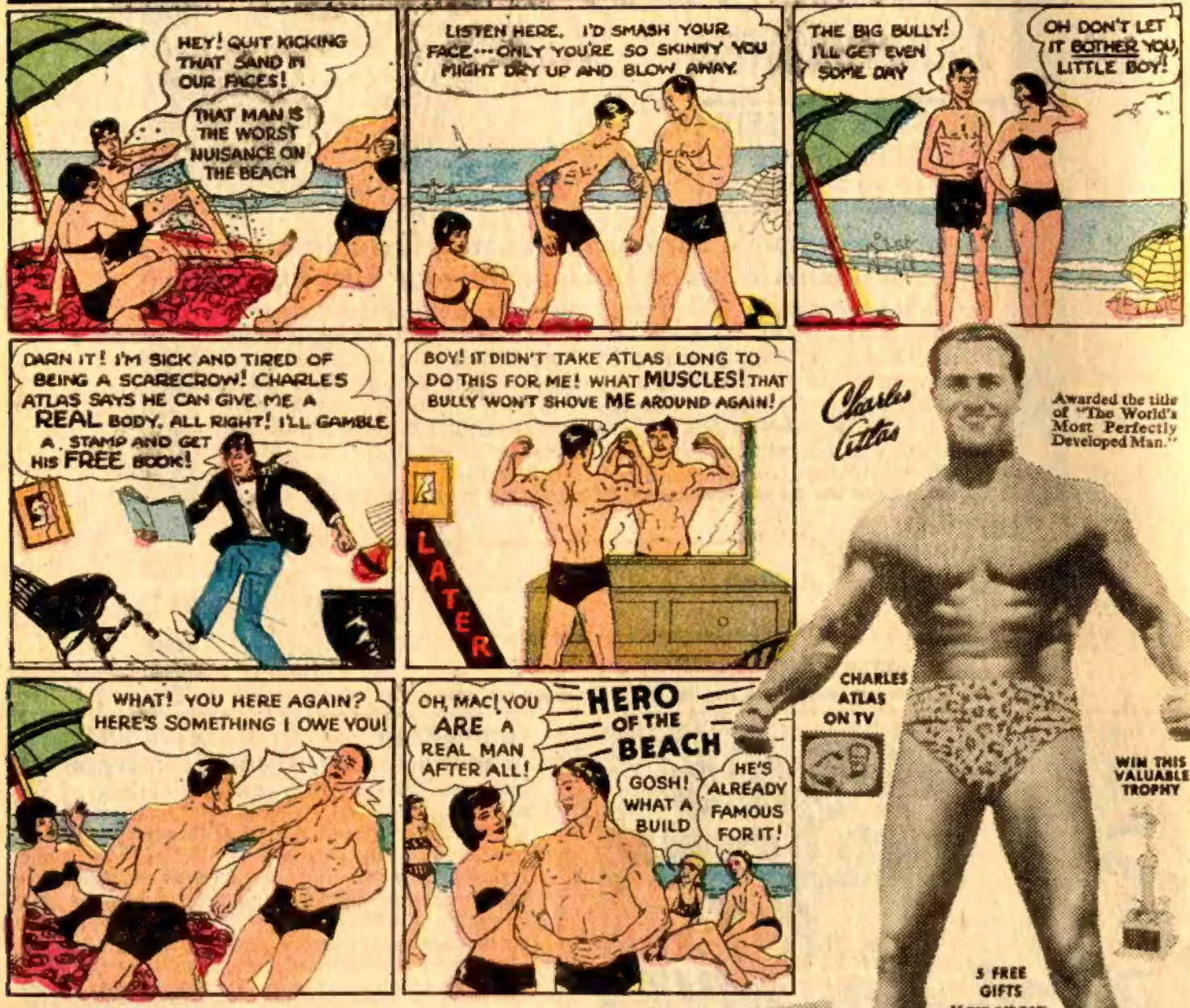
THE INSULT THAT MADE A MAN OUT OF "MAC"


HEY! QUIT KICKING THAT SAND IN OUR FACES!
THAT MAN IS THE WORST NUISANCE ON THE BEACH
LISTEN HERE. I'D SMASH YOUR FACE··· ONLY YOU'RE SO SKINNY YOU MIGHT DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY.
THE BIG BULLY! I'LL GET EVEN SOME DAY
OH DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU, LITTLE BOY!
DARN IT! I'M SICK AND TIRED OF BEING A SCARECROW! CHARLES ATLAS SAYS HE CAN GIVE ME A REAL BODY. ALL RIGHT! I'LL GAMBLE A STAMP AND GET HIS FREE BOOK!
BOY! IT DIDN'T TAKE ATLAS LONG TO DO THIS FOR ME! WHAT MUSCLES! THAT BULLY WON'T SHOVE ME AROUND AGAIN!
LATER
WHAT! YOU HERE AGAIN? HERE'S SOMETHING I OWE YOU!
OH, MAC! YOU ARE A REAL MAN AFTER ALL!
HERO OF THE BEACH
GOSH! WHAT A BUILD
HE'S ALREADY FAMOUS FOR IT!

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"Dynamic-Tension" Builds Muscles FAST!

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- ☐ Slimmer Waist and Legs
- ☐ More Energy and Stamina
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I enclose 10c. Please send me a copy of your famous book showing how "Dynamic-Tension" can make me a new man. 32 Pages, crammed with photographs, answers to vital health questions, and valuable advice. This does not obligate me in any way.

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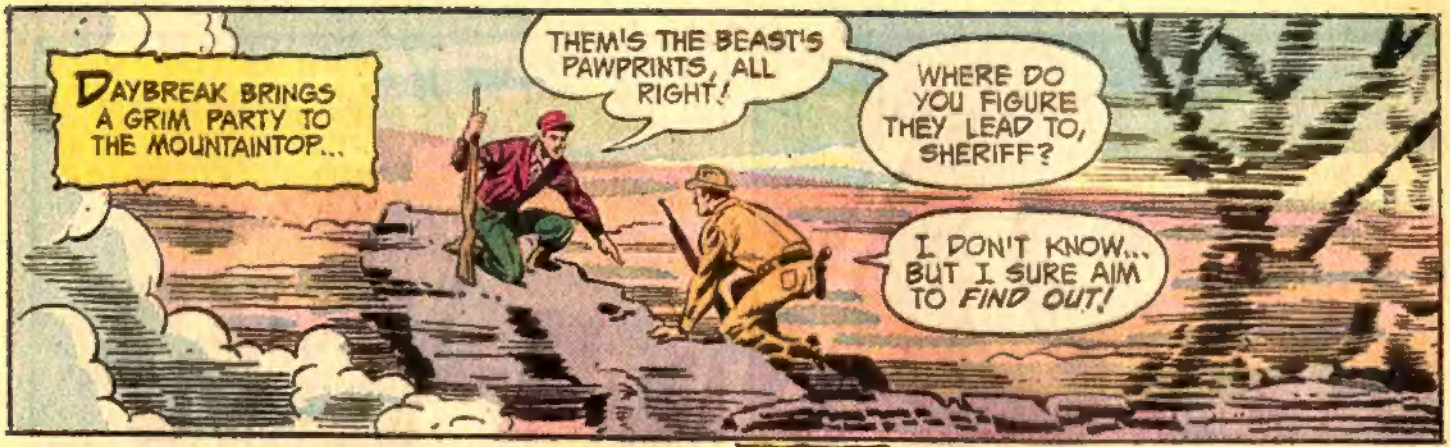
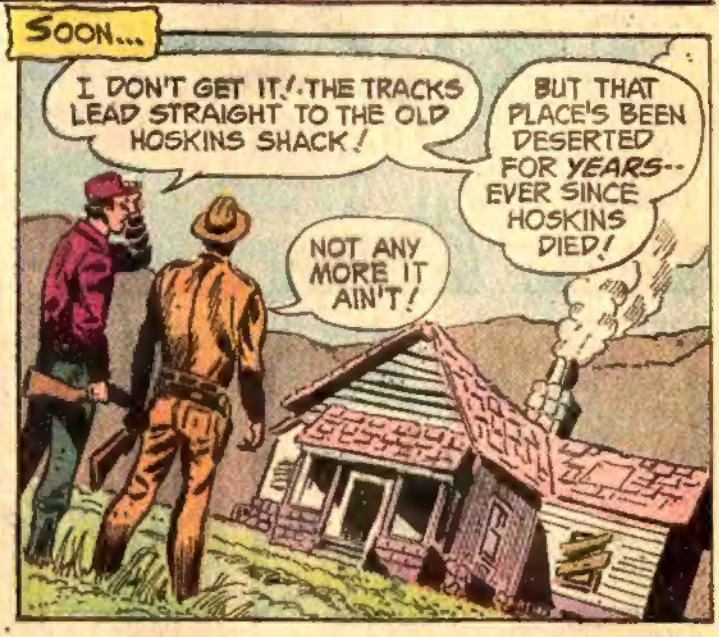

DAYBREAK BRINGS A GRIM PARTY TO THE MOUNTAINTOP...
THEM'S THE BEAST'S PAWPRINTS, ALL RIGHT!
WHERE DO YOU FIGURE THEY LEAD TO, SHERIFF?
I DON'T KNOW... BUT I SURE AIM TO FIND OUT!

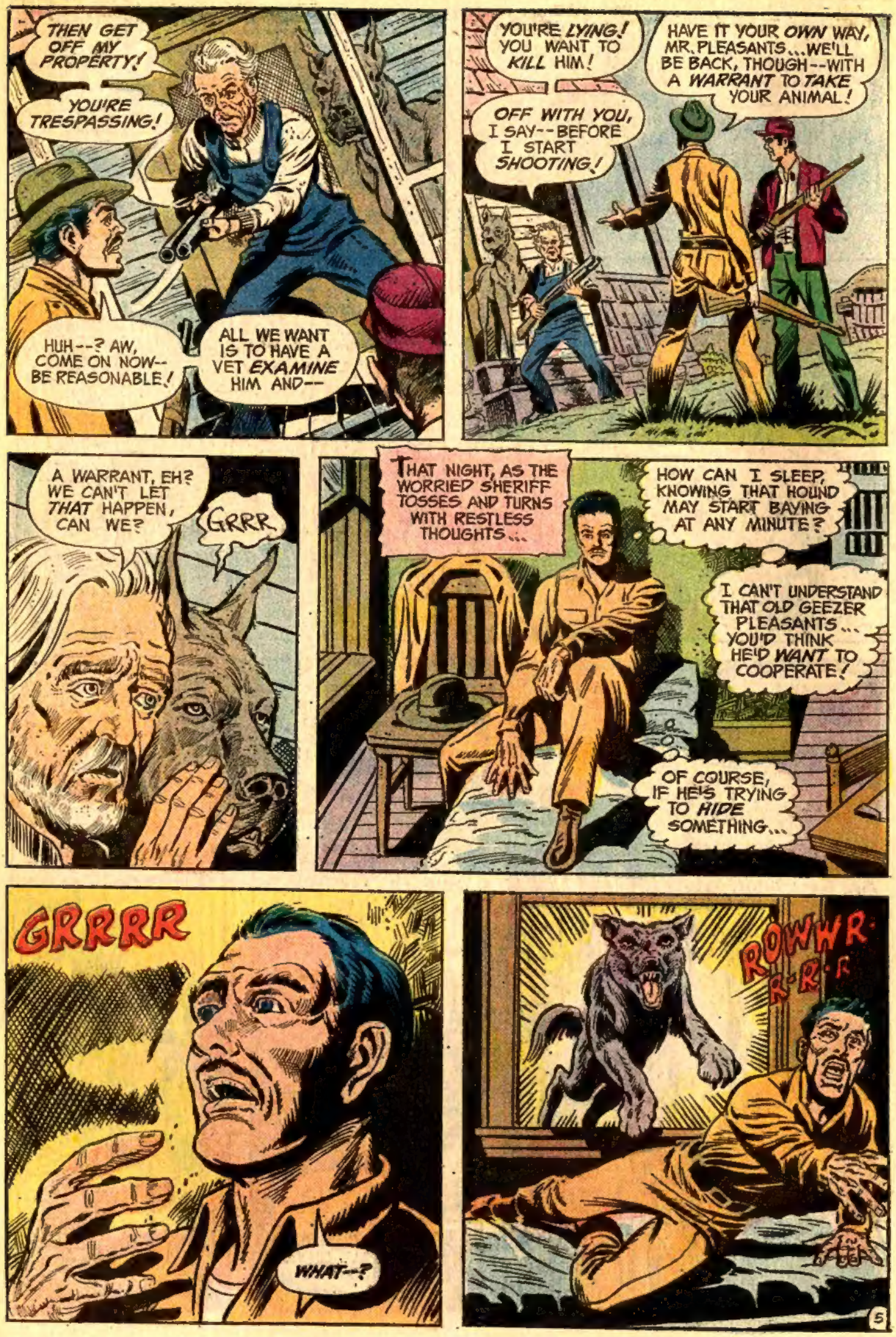
THOSE WILD DOG-PACKS ONLY COME OUT OF THE WOODS WHEN THAT BIG HOUND STARTS BAYING!
MAYBE IT'S JUST A COINCIDENCE... BUT A MAN'S BEEN KILLED AND I'M NOT TAKING ANY MORE CHANCES!


SOON...
I DON'T GET IT! THE TRACKS LEAD STRAIGHT TO THE OLD HOSKINS SHACK!
BUT THAT PLACE'S BEEN DESERTED FOR YEARS-- EVER SINCE HOSKINS DIED!
NOT ANY MORE IT AIN'T!

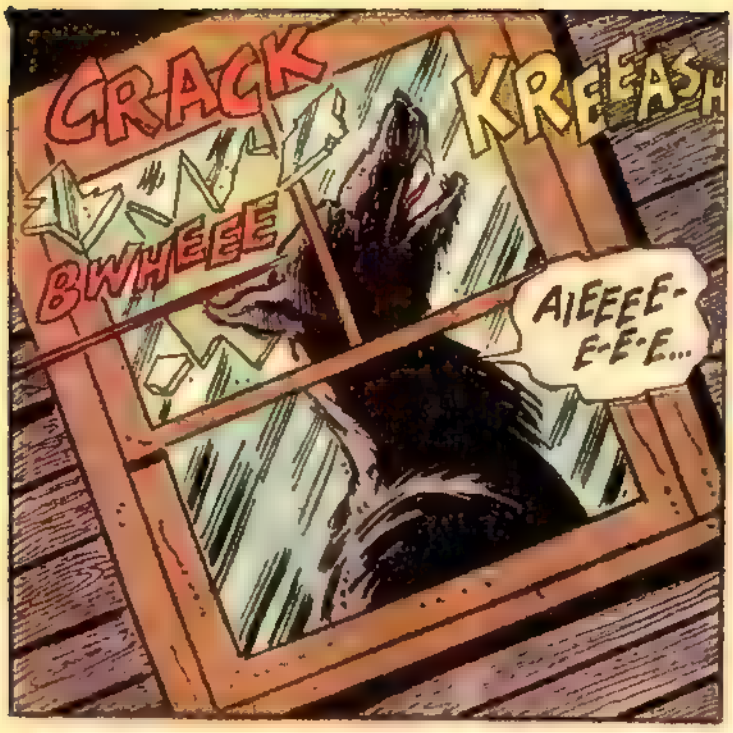
YES? CAN I HELP YOU GENTLEMEN?
YES, SIR... I'M THE SHERIFF OF THIS COUNTY, MR.--UH...
THE NAME IS PLEASANTS, SHERIFF!

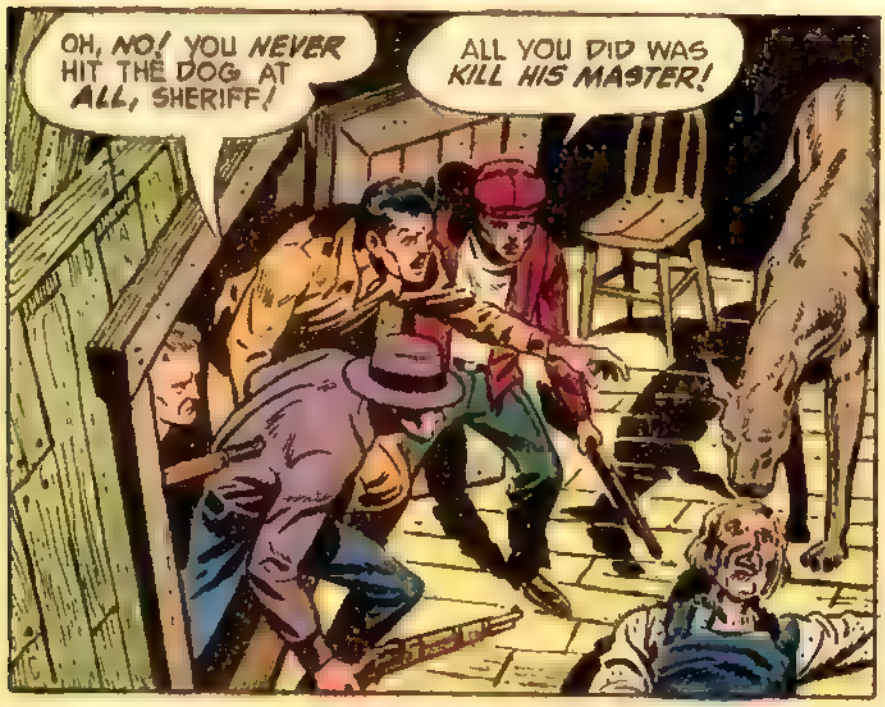
WE CAME TO PICK UP YOUR DOG, MR. PLEASANTS... TO FIND OUT IF HE'S BEEN CAUSING ALL THE TROUBLE!
WHAT TROUBLE?
WITH THE DOGS THAT SUMMER VACATIONERS CRUELLY LEAVE BEHIND...

...WHEN THE DOGS GROW HUNGRY ENOUGH, THEY FORM WILD PACKS-- AND YOUR PET MAY BE STIRRING UP THOSE PACKS!
IS THAT RIGHT? I SUPPOSE YOU HAVE SOME PROOF, SHERIFF?
WELL... NOT EXACTLY, BUT...


THEN GET OFF MY PROPERTY!
YOU'RE TRESPASSING!
HUH--? AW, COME ON NOW-- BE REASONABLE!
ALL WE WANT IS TO HAVE A VET EXAMINE HIM AND--
YOU'RE LYING! YOU WANT TO KILL HIM!
HAVE IT YOUR OWN WAY, MR. PLEASANTS...WE'LL BE BACK, THOUGH--WITH A WARRANT TO TAKE YOUR ANIMAL!
OFF WITH YOU, I SAY--BEFORE I START SHOOTING!
A WARRANT, EH? WE CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN, CAN WE?
GRRR
THAT NIGHT, AS THE WORRIED SHERIFF TOSSES AND TURNS WITH RESTLESS THOUGHTS...
HOW CAN I SLEEP, KNOWING THAT HOUND MAY START BAYING AT ANY MINUTE?
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND THAT OLD GEEZER PLEASANTS... YOU'D THINK HE'D WANT TO COOPERATE!
OF COURSE, IF HE'S TRYING TO HIDE SOMETHING...
GRRRR
WHAT--?
ROWWR-R-R-R
5

INSTINCTIVELY, A HAND DARTS FOR A DANGLING OBJECT...
RAWR-R-R-R
HE'S TRYING TO CHEW ME TO RIBBONS!
HAAOOOOOO
I MUST'VE HURT HIM BAD!
BLAST IT, WHY DIDN'T I KEEP MY RIFLE NEAR THE BED?
HURRH-HURRH-HURRH-
SECONDS LATER...
WHAT'S UP, SHERIFF?
THAT CUR TRIED TO MANGLE ME!
DON'T LET HIM OUT OF YOUR SIGHT!
A SWIFT CHASE ALONG BACKWOODS ROADS, UNTIL....
THE OLD HOSKINS SHACK... JUST WHERE I FIGGERED HE'D HEAD!
SETTIN' THERE LIKE THAT, HE MAKES A PERFECT TARGET!
6





WITH NO LEADER TO SUMMON THE PACK, THE TINY VILLAGE SLEEPS PEACEFULLY AGAIN--EVER SINCE THE EXECUTION OF THE MAN-BEAST IN THE *SINISTER HOUSE* IN THE WOODS!

The END

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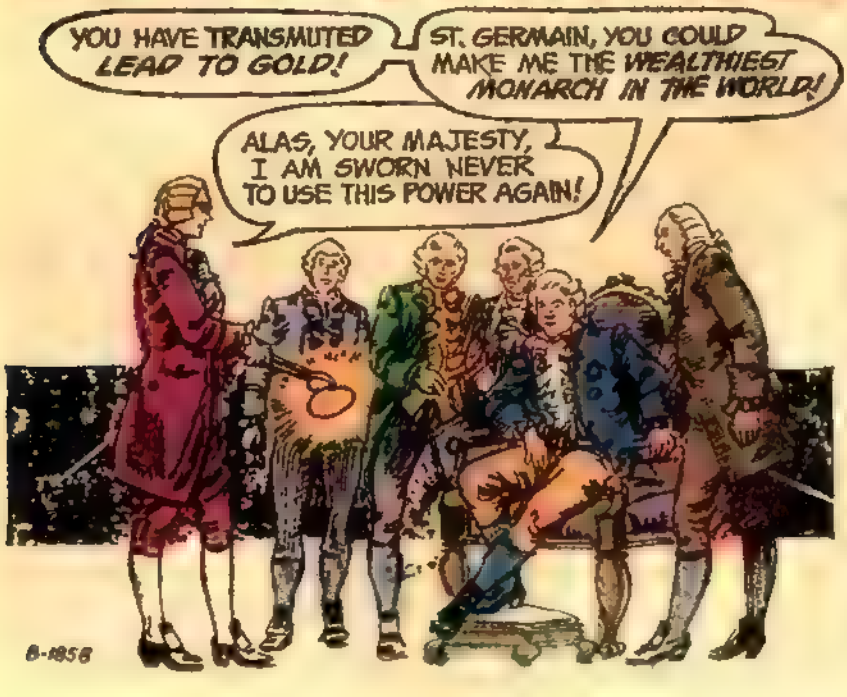
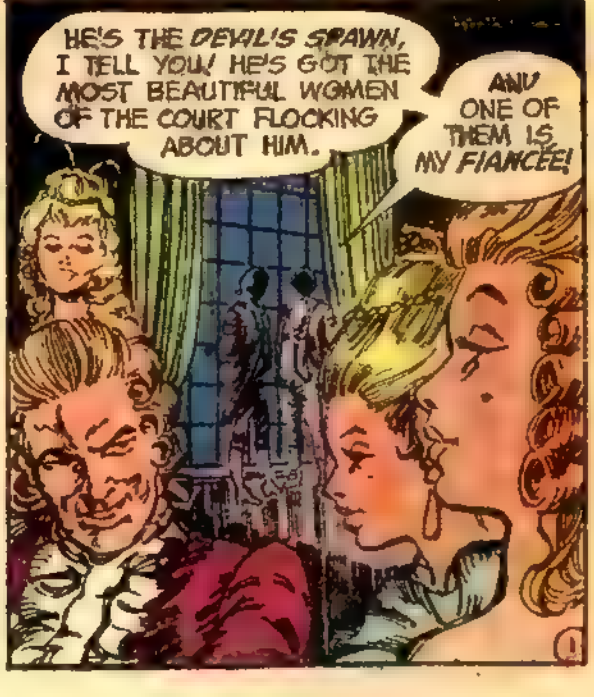
IT WAS IN THE 1740S THAT HE FIRST APPEARED AT THE ROYAL COURT OF FRANCE... THE COUNT OF ST. GERMAIN... A MAN OF A THOUSAND MYSTERIES... A MAN WHO HAD PROBED THE AWESOME SECRETS OF LIFE, AND WHO HAD CONQUERED DEATH ITSELF... A MAN WHO COULD BOAST...

NO COFFIN CAN HOLD ME


YOU HAVE TRANSMUTED LEAD TO GOLD!
ST. GERMAIN, YOU COULD MAKE ME THE WEALTHIEST MONARCH IN THE WORLD!
ALAS, YOUR MAJESTY, I AM SWORN NEVER TO USE THIS POWER AGAIN!
8-1958


HE'S THE DEVIL'S SPAWN, I TELL YOU! HE'S GOT THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMEN OF THE COURT FLOCKING ABOUT HIM.
ANY ONE OF THEM IS MY FIANCEE!

TIME AND AGAIN JEALOUSY FLARED...
I WARNED YOU FOR THE LAST TIME... KEEP AWAY FROM MY WIFE!
I DEMAND SATISFACTION! MY SECONDS WILL CALL UPON YOU!
A DARING DUELIST, ST. GERMAIN NOW FACED THE FINEST SWORDSMAN IN FRANCE...
THIS ST. GERMAIN DOESN'T CARE IF HE LIVES OR DIES!
MON DIEU! NEVER HAVE I SEEN ANYONE DUEL SO RECKLESSLY!
AT LEAST FIVE TIMES, ST. GERMAIN WAS SLAIN ON THE FIELD OF HONOR!
SWISH
BUT EACH TIME, AS IF BY SOME POWER BEYOND HUMAN KEN...
SACRE! DID I NOT PREDICT IT? HE AWAKENS... HE RISES FROM THE COFFIN!
BUT I SAW THE SWORD RUN HIM THROUGH! I HEARD THE DOCTORS PRONOUNCE HIM DEAD!
MY FRIENDS... HOW OFTEN MUST I PROVE IT TO YOU?
NO COFFIN CAN HOLD ME!
2

WITH EACH PASSING YEAR, THE MYSTERIES DEEPENED...
FLOWERS BEFORE THIS STATUE OF CAESAR? BUT WHY, MY DEAR COUNT?
BECAUSE THESE ARE THE IDES OF MARCH... THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAY THEY SLEW HIM!
I WAS AT HIS SIDE IN ROME ON THAT DAY! I WAS ABOUT TO PAY HIM A DEBT I OWED!
BUT THAT WAS CENTURIES AGO! HOW COULD YOU STILL BE ALIVE?
YOU DOUBT ME, MONSIEUR?
SEE... I STILL HAVE THE 50 GOLD PIECES I OWED THE MIGHTY CAESAR!
NOM DE DIEU! I DON'T BELIEVE ANY MORTAL CAN LIVE SO LONG!
NEITHER DID I... ...UNTIL THAT DAY, 3,000 YEARS AGO, WHEN A PRIEST IN ANCIENT EGYPT GAVE ME THIS POTION!
THE SECRET OF ETERNAL YOUTH!
IT MUST BE TRUE! I WAS A GIRL OF 16 WHEN HE FIRST CAME TO VERSAILLES! AND LOOK AT ME NOW!
BUT ST. GERMAIN HASN'T GROWN A DAY OLDER!
SKEPTICAL, THEY QUESTIONED THE COUNT'S SERVANT...
HSST! THIS MASTER OF YOURS... HOW OLD IS HE REALLY?
I CANNOT SWEAR TO IT FOR CERTAIN, MADAME...
...YOU SEE, I HAVE ONLY BEEN WITH THE COUNT FOR THE PAST 300 YEARS!
CONTINUED ON 42nd PAGE FOLLOWING.
3

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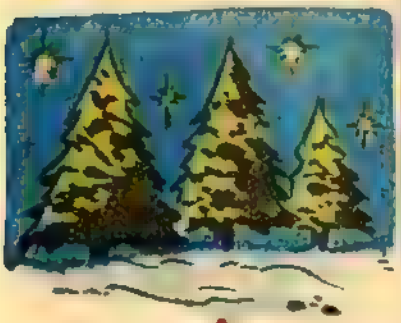

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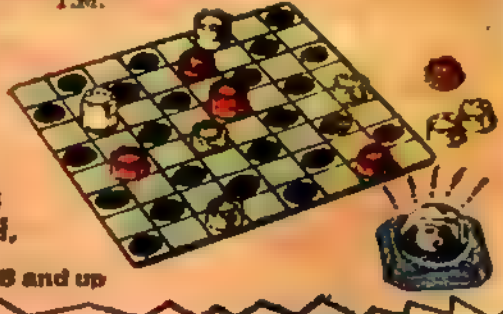

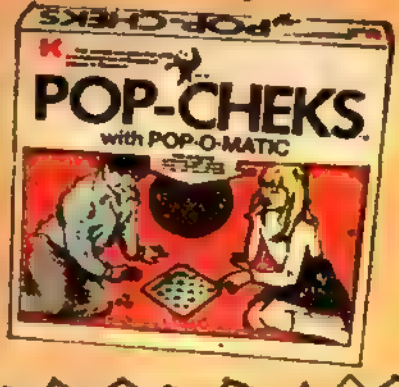

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IT'S 10 INSTRUMENTS IN ONE. [illegible] Compound microscope [illegible] telescope [illegible] pass 6 [illegible] Magnifying mirror, 9 [illegible] Code [illegible]
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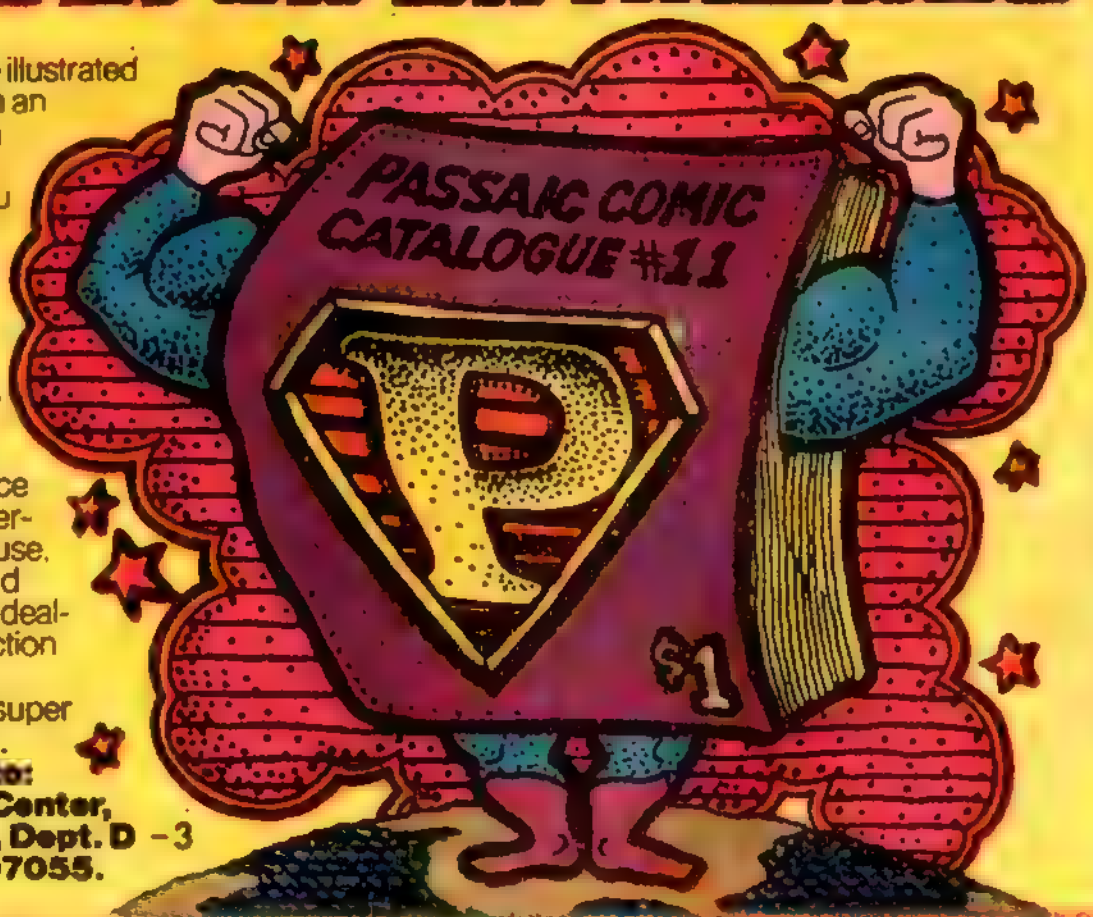
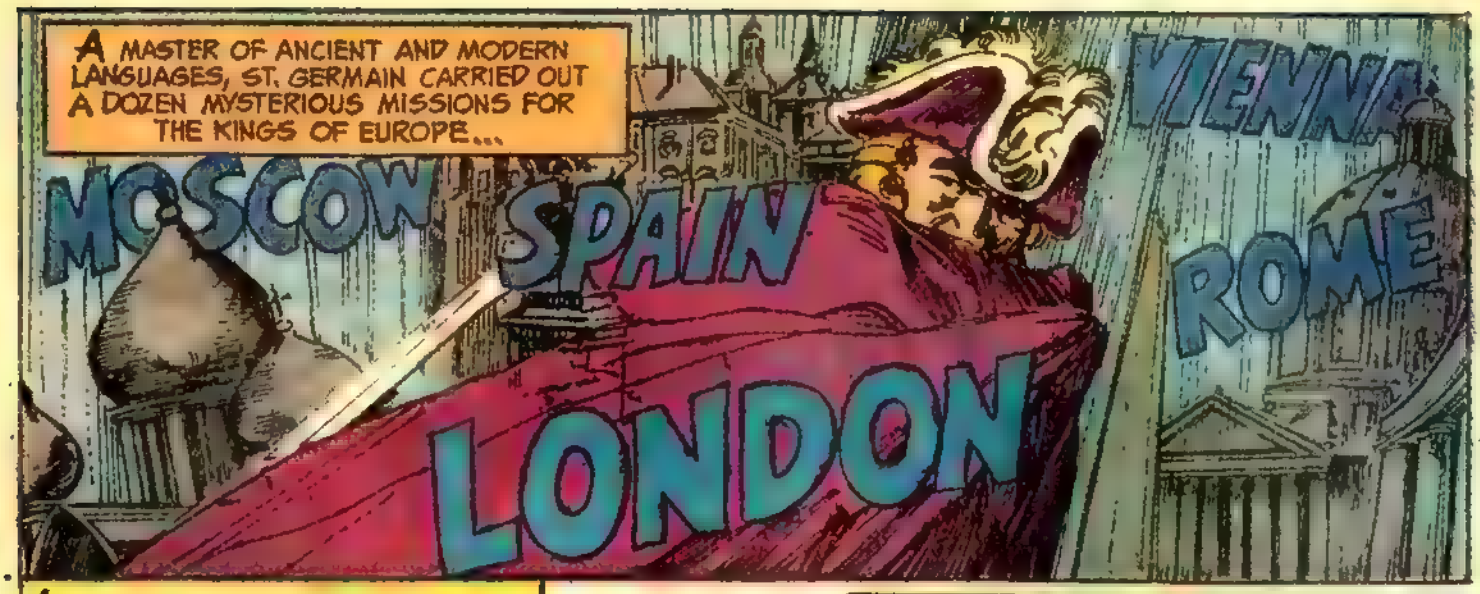
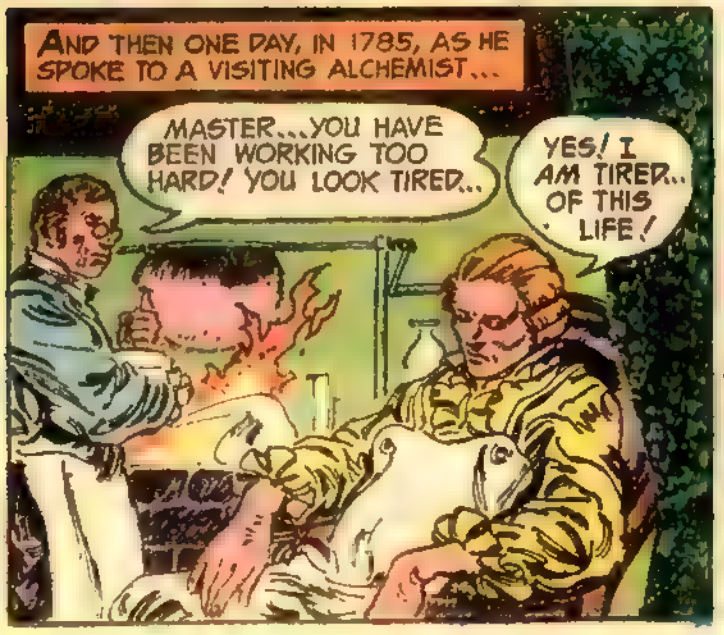


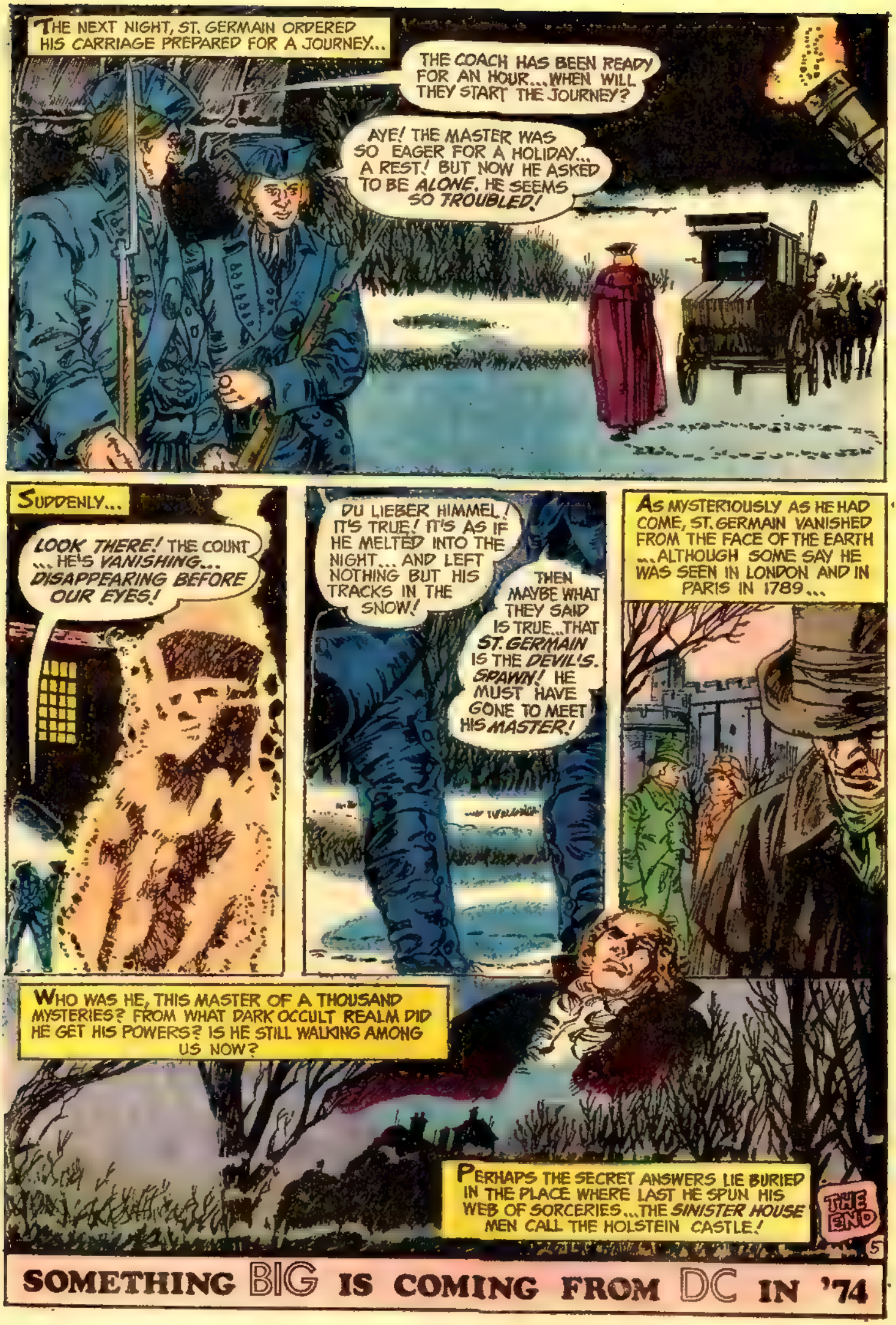

A MASTER OF ANCIENT AND MODERN LANGUAGES, ST. GERMAIN CARRIED OUT A DOZEN MYSTERIOUS MISSIONS FOR THE KINGS OF EUROPE...
MOSCOW
SPAIN
VIENNA
ROME
LONDON

IN THE 1780S, HE BROUGHT HIS INEXHAUSTIBLE WEALTH OF SECRETS TO THE GRIM WALLS OF THE HOLSTEIN PALACE IN GERMANY...
SPLENDID! SO FAR AWAY FROM THE COURTS OF EUROPE, I'LL BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT MY EXPERIMENTS IN PEACE!

BUT THE WORLD'S GREATEST ALCHEMISTS AND SCIENTISTS MADE PILGRIMAGES TO HIS DOOR...
AH, CAGLIOSTRO! I HAVE HEARD OF YOUR MANY AMAZING FEATS OF MAGIC!
I AM BUT A DABBLER, MY LORD! IT IS YOU WHO ARE THE MASTER OF THE UNKNOWN ...AND I HAVE COME TO WORSHIP AT YOUR FEET!


AND THEN ONE DAY, IN 1785, AS HE SPOKE TO A VISITING ALCHEMIST...
MASTER...YOU HAVE BEEN WORKING TOO HARD! YOU LOOK TIRED..
YES! I AM TIRED.. OF THIS LIFE!

I AM WEARY... WEARY OF THE YEARS ...THE ENDLESS YEARS! SOON, I SHALL DEPART ...PERHAPS TO SLEEP A FEW CENTURIES!
HE JESTS... SURELY! A DRINK OF HIS POTION WILL GIVE HIM THE STRENGTH OF ETERNAL YOUTH AGAIN!


THE NEXT NIGHT, ST. GERMAIN ORDERED HIS CARRIAGE PREPARED FOR A JOURNEY...
THE COACH HAS BEEN READY FOR AN HOUR...WHEN WILL THEY START THE JOURNEY?
AYE! THE MASTER WAS SO EAGER FOR A HOLIDAY... A REST! BUT NOW HE ASKED TO BE ALONE. HE SEEMS SO TROUBLED!
SUDDENLY...
LOOK THERE! THE COUNT ...HE'S VANISHING... DISAPPEARING BEFORE OUR EYES!
DU LIEBER HIMMEL! IT'S TRUE! IT'S AS IF HE MELTED INTO THE NIGHT... AND LEFT NOTHING BUT HIS TRACKS IN THE SNOW!
THEN MAYBE WHAT THEY SAID IS TRUE...THAT ST. GERMAIN IS THE DEVIL'S SPAWN! HE MUST HAVE GONE TO MEET HIS MASTER!
AS MYSTERIOUSLY AS HE HAD COME, ST. GERMAIN VANISHED FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH ...ALTHOUGH SOME SAY HE WAS SEEN IN LONDON AND IN PARIS IN 1789...
WHO WAS HE, THIS MASTER OF A THOUSAND MYSTERIES? FROM WHAT DARK OCCULT REALM DID HE GET HIS POWERS? IS HE STILL WALKING AMONG US NOW?
PERHAPS THE SECRET ANSWERS LIE BURIED IN THE PLACE WHERE LAST HE SPUN HIS WEB OF SORCERIES...THE SINISTER HOUSE MEN CALL THE HOLSTEIN CASTLE!
THE END
5

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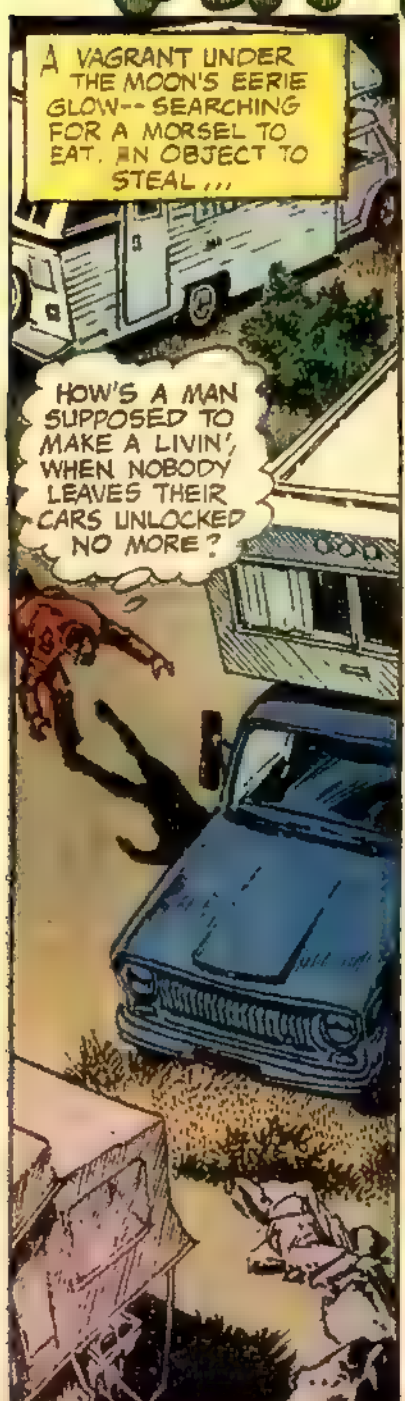
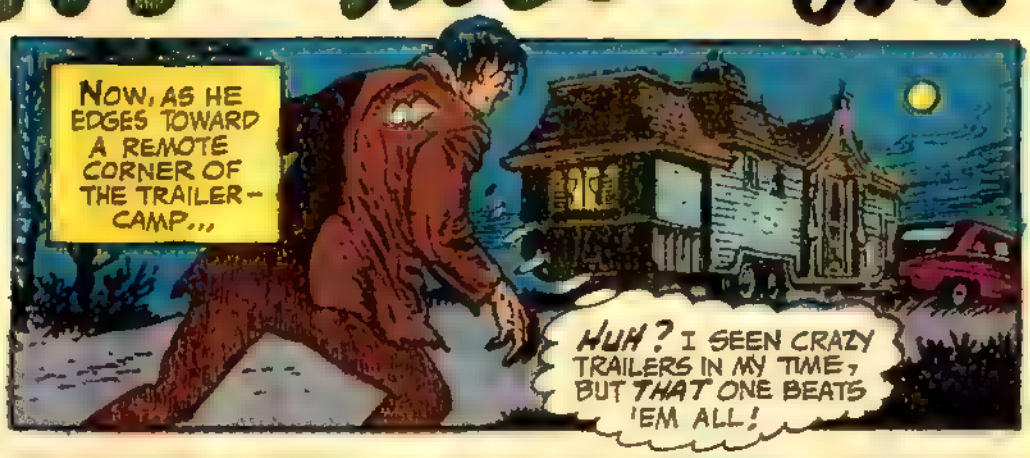
WHAT SECRET WAS LOCKED IN THIS HAUNTED HOUSE-ON-WHEELS? WHAT EVIL LURKED WITHIN, WAITING TO SPEW FORTH FROM...
the HAUNTED HOUSE-mobile


A VAGRANT UNDER THE MOON'S EERIE GLOW-- SEARCHING FOR A MORSEL TO EAT, AN OBJECT TO STEAL...
HOW'S A MAN SUPPOSED TO MAKE A LIVIN', WHEN NOBODY LEAVES THEIR CARS UNLOCKED NO MORE?



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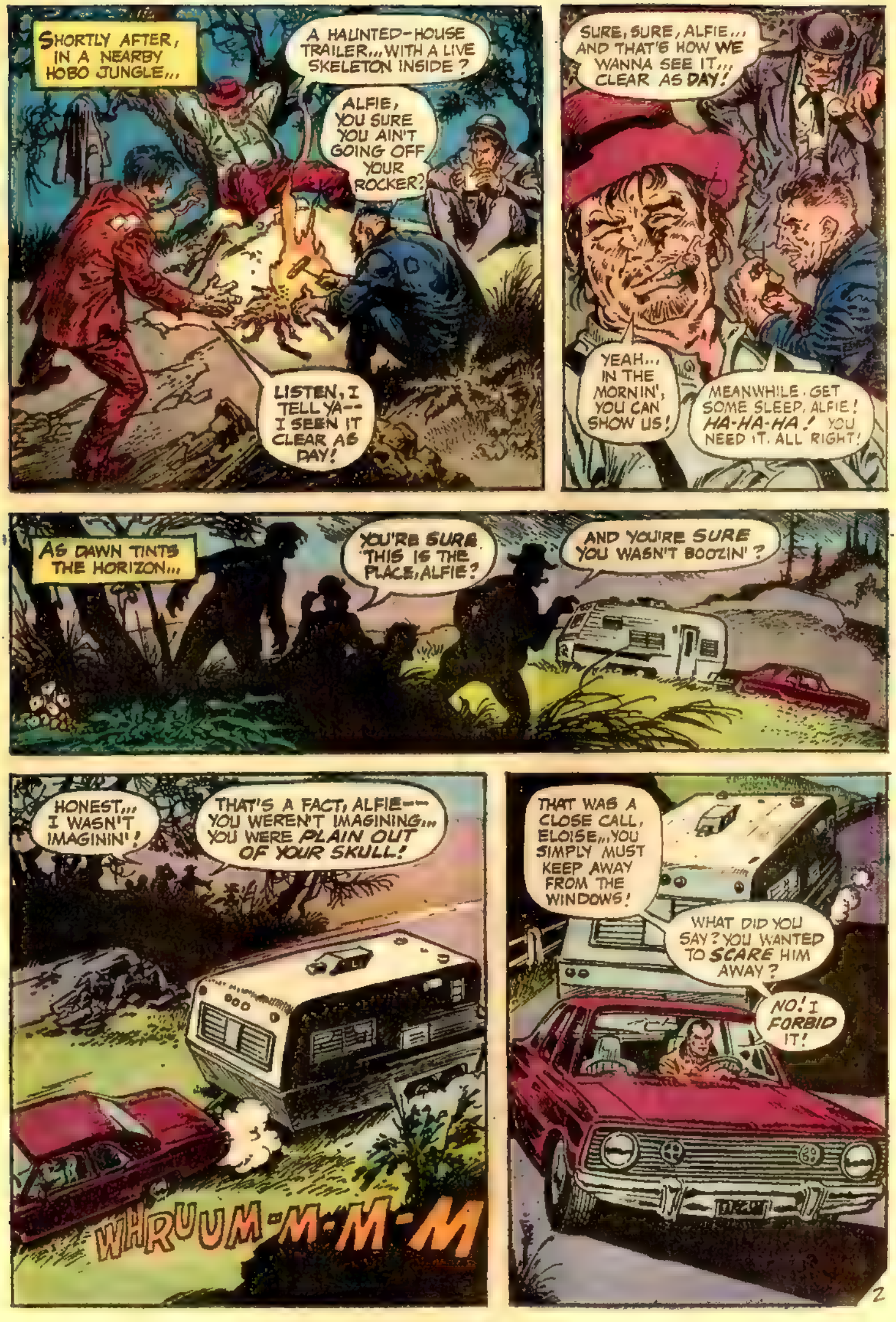
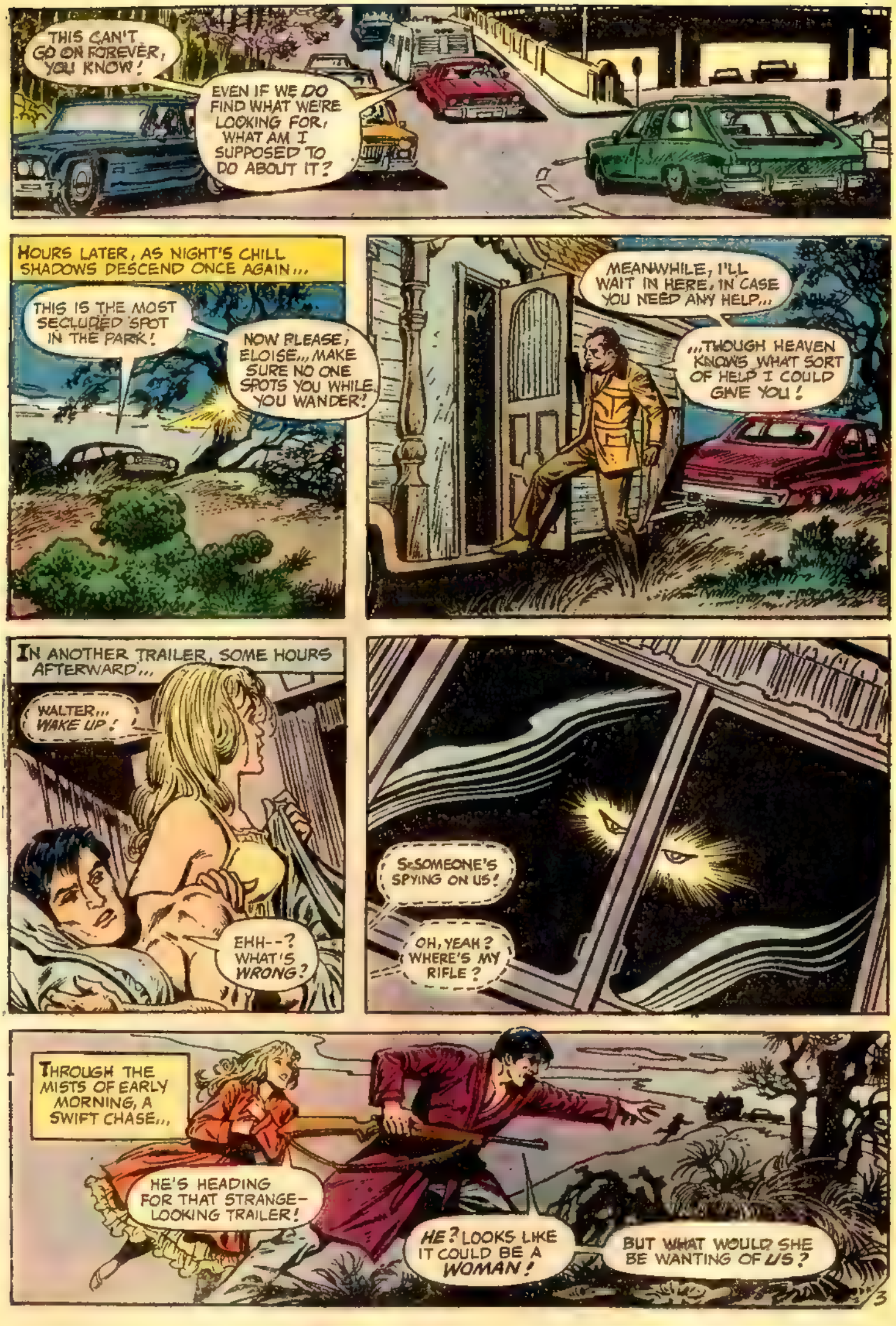
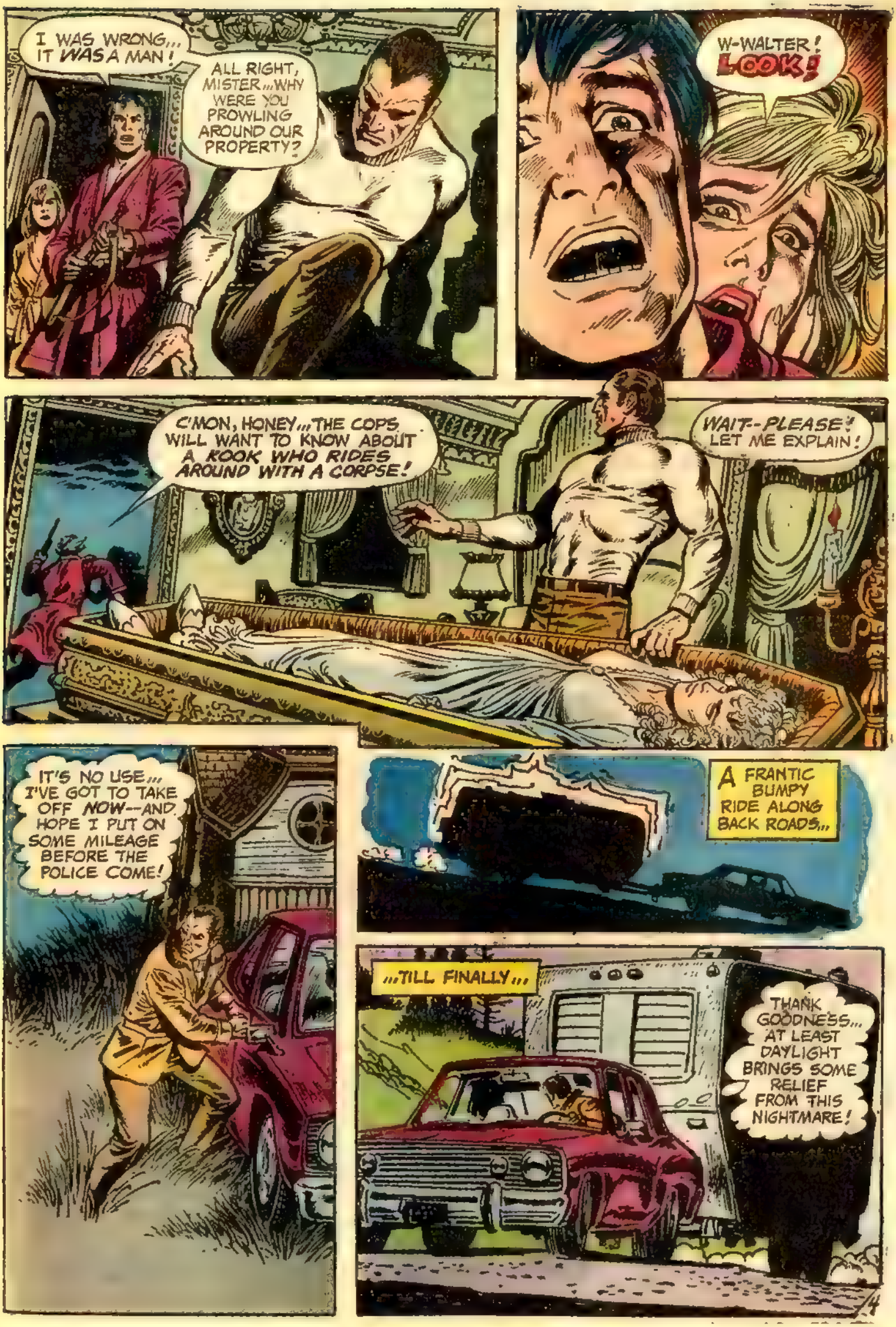
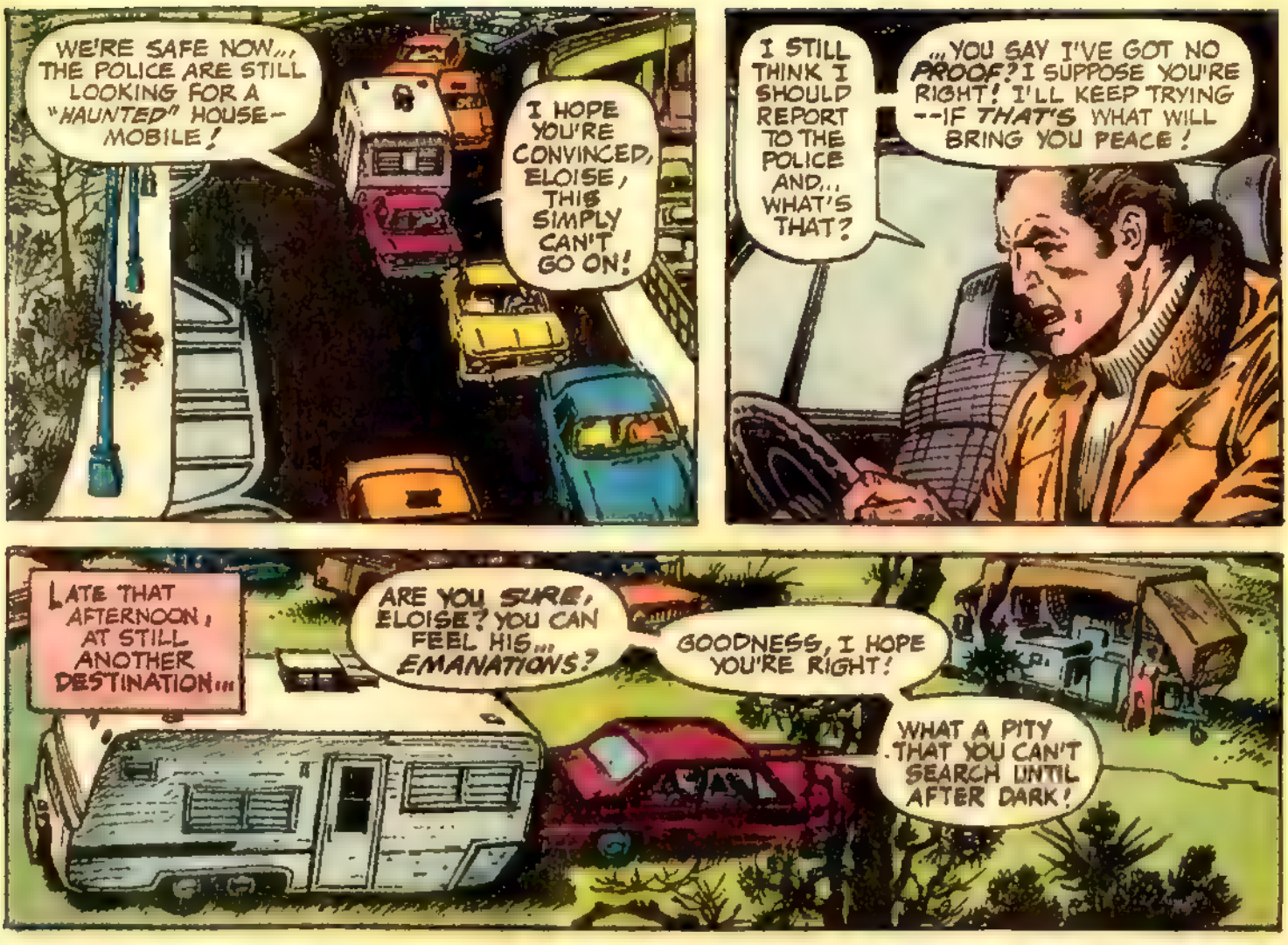
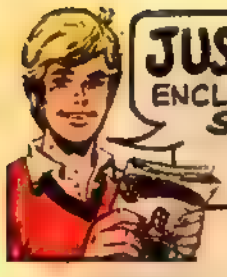

SHORTLY AFTER, IN A NEARBY HOBO JUNGLE...
A HAUNTED-HOUSE TRAILER...WITH A LIVE SKELETON INSIDE?
ALFIE, YOU SURE YOU AIN'T GOING OFF YOUR ROCKER?
LISTEN, I TELL YA--I SEEN IT CLEAR AS DAY!
SURE, SURE, ALFIE... AND THAT'S HOW WE WANNA SEE IT... CLEAR AS DAY!
YEAH... IN THE MORNIN', YOU CAN SHOW US!
MEANWHILE, GET SOME SLEEP, ALFIE! HA-HA-HA! YOU NEED IT, ALL RIGHT!
AS DAWN TINTS THE HORIZON...
YOU'RE SURE THIS IS THE PLACE, ALFIE?
AND YOU'RE SURE YOU WASN'T BOOZIN'?
HONEST... I WASN'T IMAGININ'!
THAT'S A FACT, ALFIE--YOU WEREN'T IMAGINING... YOU WERE PLAIN OUT OF YOUR SKULL!
WHRUUM-M-M-M
THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL, ELOISE... YOU SIMPLY MUST KEEP AWAY FROM THE WINDOWS!
WHAT DID YOU SAY? YOU WANTED TO SCARE HIM AWAY?
NO! I FORBID IT!
2


THIS CAN'T GO ON FOREVER, YOU KNOW!
EVEN IF WE DO FIND WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR, WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO ABOUT IT?
HOURS LATER, AS NIGHT'S CHILL SHADOWS DESCEND ONCE AGAIN...
THIS IS THE MOST SECLUDED SPOT IN THE PARK!
NOW PLEASE, ELOISE... MAKE SURE NO ONE SPOTS YOU WHILE YOU WANDER!
MEANWHILE, I'LL WAIT IN HERE, IN CASE YOU NEED ANY HELP...
...THOUGH HEAVEN KNOWS WHAT SORT OF HELP I COULD GIVE YOU!
IN ANOTHER TRAILER, SOME HOURS AFTERWARD...
WALTER... WAKE UP!
EHH--? WHAT'S WRONG?
S-SOMEONE'S SPYING ON US!
OH, YEAH? WHERE'S MY RIFLE?
THROUGH THE MISTS OF EARLY MORNING, A SWIFT CHASE...
HE'S HEADING FOR THAT STRANGE-LOOKING TRAILER!
HE? LOOKS LIKE IT COULD BE A WOMAN!
BUT WHAT WOULD SHE BE WANTING OF US?


I WAS WRONG... IT WAS A MAN!
ALL RIGHT, MISTER... WHY WERE YOU PROWLING AROUND OUR PROPERTY?
W-WALTER! LOOK!
C'MON, HONEY... THE COPS WILL WANT TO KNOW ABOUT A KOOK WHO RIDES AROUND WITH A CORPSE!
WAIT--PLEASE! LET ME EXPLAIN!
IT'S NO USE... I'VE GOT TO TAKE OFF NOW--AND HOPE I PUT ON SOME MILEAGE BEFORE THE POLICE COME!
A FRANTIC BUMPY RIDE ALONG BACK ROADS...
...TILL FINALLY...
THANK GOODNESS... AT LEAST DAYLIGHT BRINGS SOME RELIEF FROM THIS NIGHTMARE!
4


WE'RE SAFE NOW... THE POLICE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR A "HAUNTED" HOUSE-MOBILE!
I HOPE YOU'RE CONVINCED, ELOISE, THIS SIMPLY CAN'T GO ON!
I STILL THINK I SHOULD REPORT TO THE POLICE AND... WHAT'S THAT?
"...YOU SAY I'VE GOT NO PROOF? I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT! I'LL KEEP TRYING --IF THAT'S WHAT WILL BRING YOU PEACE!
LATE THAT AFTERNOON, AT STILL ANOTHER DESTINATION...
ARE YOU SURE, ELOISE? YOU CAN FEEL HIS... EMANATIONS?
GOODNESS, I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT!
WHAT A PITY THAT YOU CAN'T SEARCH UNTIL AFTER DARK!
HIM--?! WHAT'S HE DOING HERE? IS HE WISE TO ME?
I GOTTA FOLLOW AND FIND OUT!
HE PICKED HIMSELF A SECLUDED SPOT! GOOD!
I'LL PAY HIM A LITTLE VISIT TONIGHT...AND MAKE SURE I NEVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HIM AGAIN!
CONTINUED ON 53RD PAGE FOLLOWING!



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11 ☐ THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD
14 ☐ THE FLASH
16 ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE
17 ☐ MISTER MIRACLE
20 ☐ WONDER WOMAN
21 ☐ SUPERGIRL
22 ☐ SECRET ORIGINS

MYSTERY

30 ☐ GHOSTS
31 ☐ HOUSE OF MYSTERY
32 ☐ HOUSE OF SECRETS
33 ☐ PHANTOM STRANGER
34 ☐ THE UNEXPECTED
35 ☐ THE WITCHING HOUR
37 ☐ SWAMP THING
40 ☐ FORBIDDEN TALES OF DARK MANSION
41 ☐ SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE
42 ☐ WEIRD MYSTERY TALES
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ADVENTURE

75 ☐ TARZAN
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WAR

60 ☐ G.I. COMBAT
61 ☐ OUR ARMY AT WAR
62 ☐ OUR FIGHTING FORCES
63 ☐ STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES
64 ☐ WEIRD WAR TALES

HERE COMES THE COMICS-MAN!

Have you ever had trouble finding a store that carries DC Comics magazines? Have you ever had a hard time locating a particular issue that just didn't seem to go on sale anywhere? Then, it's time you heard about DC's latest and greatest project, the COMICMOBILE!

Over the past two years, DC's Vice-President and Production Manager, Sol Harrison, has received hundreds of letters from readers who have had difficulty in locating the DC line of comics. One answer to the problem appeared to be subscriptions, and all DC mags began carrying the proper form offering fifteen issues for $3.00. Realizing that few readers could afford to subscribe to all the titles they collect at once, Mr. Harrison developed the totally unique concept of the COMICMOBILE with the blessing of Carmine Infantino, the publisher of DC, and it was all systems go!

Picture, if you will, a brightly decorated van, covered with all the heroes and heroines comprising the DC line of super-stars. With a blaring "Here Comes the Comics-Man!" wrapped around the Supervan, and with covers of the latest issues filling the windows, the project that in jest had been known as Solly's Folly around the office began taking our comic magazines right to neighborhood streets and appears to be a stunning success.

Test sites were carefully chosen in the Long Island and New Jersey areas where comics were not distributed. Could comic books be brought to the people the way ice cream is? The answer is yes! Readers from three to ninety-three kept coming back to the COMICMOBILE for their favorite DC magazines, every one from Action to Young Romance, every character from Atom to Zatanna.

Inside, the van is decorated with posters of Batman, Robin, Superman and Plop!, the number one selling comic book so far in the Comicmobile's journeys. Original artwork and pictures of Superman line the interior along with giant buttons proclaiming "Shazam Is Coming!"

While stopping at day camps, parks, beaches and the New York Giants Summer training camp, the COMICMOBILE has run Superman cartoons to entertain its customers in between purchases of comics, T-shirts, pennants and souvenirs from the Amazing World of Superman in Metropolis, Illinois.

Messrs. Harrison and Infantino may well revolutionize comic magazine distribution with their possible plans of beginning a fleet of COMICMOBILES all around the country. Not only can we at DC tell which of our mags the readers are buying, but we can also see just who is reading them and get direct feedback from these fans. Our ultimate goal is to make sure that every adult and child who wants comic magazines can find them. Yet, while we send out our COMICMOBILES to a few cities we want to help our readers anywhere who have problems finding our comics. If your area is not getting comic books or if you can't locate all the titles you want, send a letter describing the trouble spot to: The DC COMICMOBILE, c/o Sol Harrison, National Periodical Publications, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, New York 10019.

Meanwhile, keep your ears open for a ringing bell and the words "Faster than a speeding bullet . . ." echoing down your street. The DC COMICMOBILE may be coming to *your* neighborhood next!

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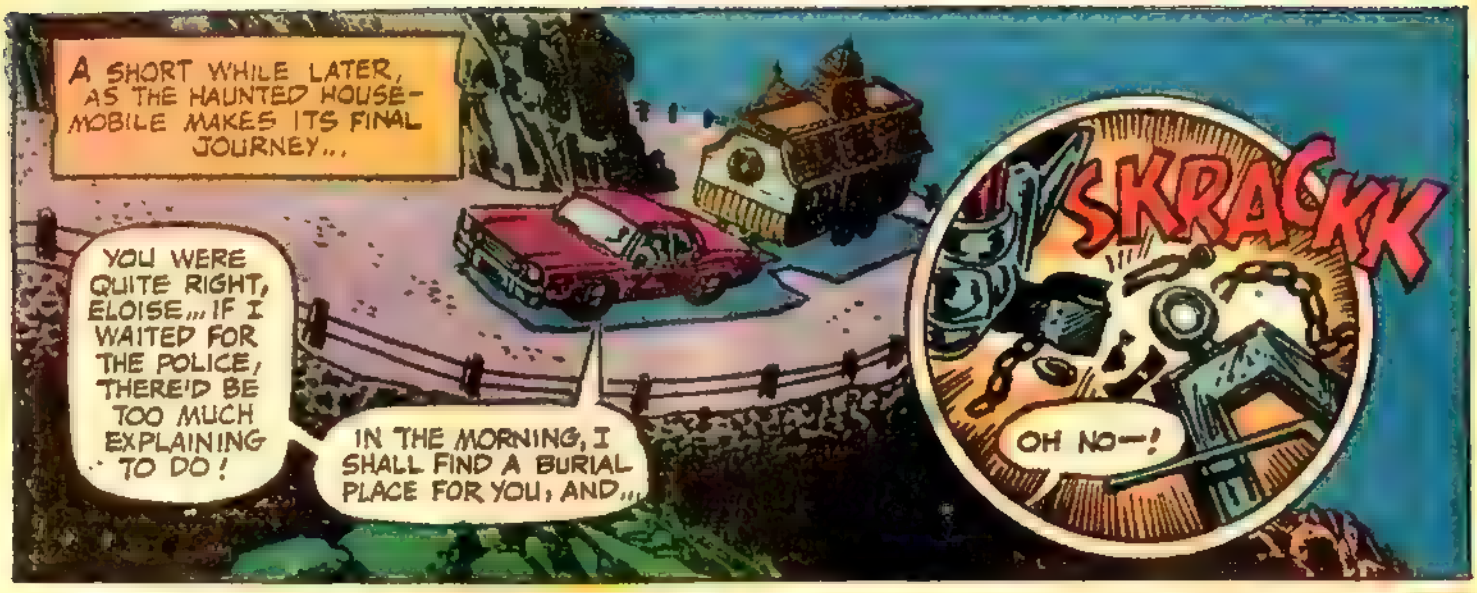
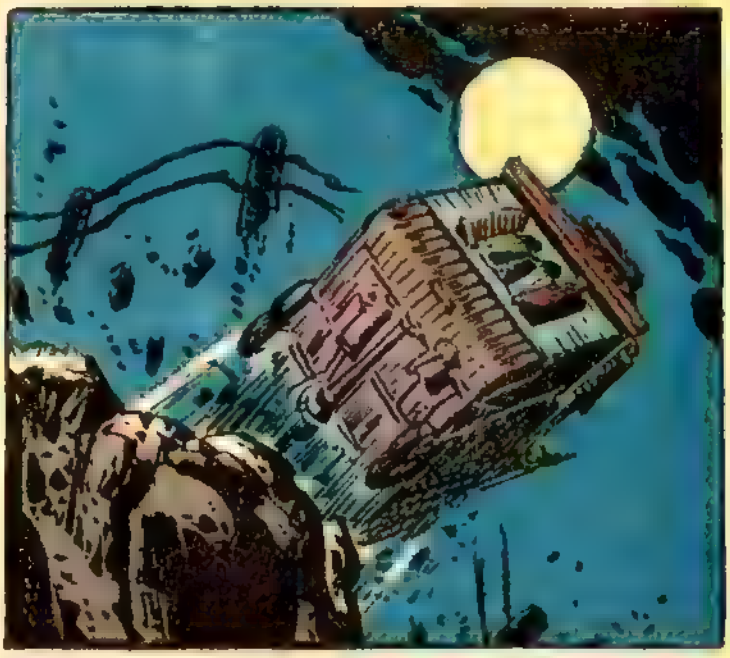
SOON, WITH THE DARKNESS, AN OMINOUS SHAPE RE-APPEARS...
HUH--? WHAT'S HE DONE TO THAT TRAILER?
WHO CARES, WHEN YOU REALLY GET DOWN TO IT?
I'LL LET THE COPS WORRY ABOUT IT, WHEN THEY FIND HIS BODY!
I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU! SHE TOLD ME YOU'D COME!
WHAT--? WHO TOLD YOU?
MY WIFE... THE WOMAN YOU MURDERED WHEN YOU TRIED TO ROB MY TRAILER!
YOU'RE CRAZY... SHE WAS DEAD WHEN YOU GOT BACK!
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU FOUND OUT IT WAS ME, BUT--
THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO HEAR-- YOUR CONFESSION..!
YOU HEARD, TOO, ELOISE? HE'S ALL YOURS!
NO! NO! PLEASE --I... ARRRGGH!


A SHORT WHILE LATER, AS THE HAUNTED HOUSE-MOBILE MAKES ITS FINAL JOURNEY...
YOU WERE QUITE RIGHT, ELOISE... IF I WAITED FOR THE POLICE, THERE'D BE TOO MUCH EXPLAINING TO DO!
IN THE MORNING, I SHALL FIND A BURIAL PLACE FOR YOU, AND...
SKRACKK
OH NO—!



PERHAPS IT IS ALL FOR THE BEST! THE RIVER WILL BE HER GRAVE... WHERE SHE'LL FIND HER ETERNAL REST!
YES, FOR THE RESTLESS SPIRIT IS NO LONGER EARTHBOUND. PEACE CAME AT LAST, IN THE SINISTER HOUSE-ON-WHEELS SHE'D CREATED!
THE END

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE DURING THE THIRD WEEK IN DEC.

SOMETHING BIG IS COMING FROM DC IN '74

THE COLOR OF DEATH

B-1863

EDITOR'S NOTE: *With this issue, SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE comes under new editorial direction. To relieve Joe Orlando of the enormous burden of producing his handful of suspense-mystery magazines, we were invited to add this publication to our own list, which includes UNEXPECTED, THE WITCHING HOUR, and GHOSTS—TRUE TALES OF THE WEIRD AND SUPERNATURAL.*

If you've pursued any or all of them, you'd have noticed that each enjoys its own, unique characteristic quality. Each is angled towards its title. Similarly, we will aim each story here to fit specifically, to relate directly to its suspenseful title of SINISTER HOUSE.

In all modesty, we must admit that we've had considerable success with our above-mentioned trio of tingling tales. We'll make every effort to secure the same top-caliber quality of scripts from our roster of writers: Carl Wessler, George Kashdan, Leo Dorfman, Bob Haney, Al Case, and Bill Dennehy. And some of the artists who've contributed to those memorable magazines will be enlisted to perform their drawing-board duties here.

So, a-haunting we will go! With unbridled enthusiasm, we hope to have an exciting time editing SINISTER HOUSE, and we hope that you share our experience!

* * * *

John Williams, manager of a mine in Cornwall, England, was an ordinary man, but on the night of May 3rd, he had an extraordinary dream. Awaking with a start, sweating profusely, he confessed to his wife that his nightmare depicted the assassination of Great Britain's Prime Minister Spencer Perceval. What was clearly defined in his troubled mind was the fact that Sir Spencer wore a dark green jacket with yellow buttons. The next night, the same dream recurred, and when the nightmare haunted Williams a third time, he announced his plan to rush to London to warn Sir Spencer.

"Nonsense! Do you really think he'll believe you?" his wife scoffed, angrily. "If you do get in to see him—imagine an ordinary mining man from Cornwall being greeted by the Prime Minister!—if you do see him, he'll think you're a madman! You'll be lucky if he doesn't have you thrown into jail!"

Shattered by his wife's scorn, Williams sullenly went back to bed.

Some nights later, another man abruptly awoke, greatly agitated by a dream involving the shooting of the Prime Minister, garbed in a dark green jacket with yellow buttons. This was the potential victim himself, Sir Spencer Perceval! He refrained from describing his premonition to his wife to spare her from needless worry, but when he did confide in a colleague later that day, he was urged to absent himself from the House of Commons, which was deeply concerned with some important legislation.

Sir Spencer shrugged off the warning. His vote on the pending bill was important. Besides, he reasoned, he had no enemies; neither had a slaying ever occurred in the hallowed halls of Parliament.

But back in the deep recesses of his mind, a slight fear gnawed at him. Hadn't Julius Caesar stalked challengingly into the Forum despite dire omens, only to be hacked to death? In the years ahead, wouldn't Abraham Lincoln frequently envision himself aboard a small, slight craft sailing through a heavy mist towards the unknown on the beyond, which he solemnly characterized as the Land of the Dead? Was this not a dread portent of the fatal incident at Ford's Theater which climaxed with Booth's bullet cutting him down? And still, in time to come, wouldn't John F. Kennedy spum words of caution, only to have his own skull fragmented by a deranged rifleman, as he motored through Dallas?

Yet an alien fear persisted, and simply as a precautionary measure, Sir Spencer dressed himself in a *light blue jacket* with *white buttons*, unlike the yellow-buttoned, dark green jacket which would be his shroud. He was determined not to be scared off by this ridiculous dream that had no basis in fact, yet why spurn this extra measure of care, he reasoned.

Sir Spencer acknowledged the salute of the guards at the entrance to the House of Commons, and with increasing self-assurance strolled down the lobby as he noticed the profusion of uniformed soldiers patrolling the premises.

He felt the searing sting in his chest, the bullet burying itself within him even before he heard the shot, and the echo of the blast reverberating in the corridor. A cry of bewilderment and agonizing pain choked on his lips as he sagged to the marble floor.

"It couldn't happen! It simply couldn't," flashed through his fast-numbing brain. "I was wearing a *different-colored jacket!*"

And as he lay there, his life-blood oozing, swiftly succumbing, he became aware that his jacket was indeed *dark green*, its buttons, *yellow!* For the shaft of yellow sunlight streaming through the windows had turned his *light blue coat green and its white buttons the color of ochre!*

Who was the assassin? Why did he commit this evil deed? He was John Bellingham, an escaped prisoner, who had slipped into Parliament to kill Lord Granville Gower, a member of the House who had sentenced him to jail. But in his haste to fire his pistol and flee, he had mistakenly shot the wrong man. Bellingham was instantly caught, tried and hanged some months later.

To the sick mind, the avenging mind, no house is sacred, even the House of Commons, that year of 1812.

—Al Case

Until now, this page has been occupied by your letters. We'll continue to offer you stories like the above, factual or fictional, until we know your preference. Do you approve or disapprove? And what do you think of the illustrated features themselves? This is YOUR magazine, SINISTER HOUSE. Our address is: Sinister House, National Periodical Publications, Inc., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019

hey! SKINNY GUYS!

now you can have MUSCLES!

Yes, believe it or not, you really could have a body like "Mr. Universe" (pictured here). It was not by accident that he got to look that way. He was not a natural superman. He was just an average fellow. Then he followed our HERCULES II® Muscle Building Course for just a few short weeks, and gained 3" on each arm, 4" on his chest, and beefed up his legs and stomach muscles until he reached his present Super-Build — a body good enough to win him the World's coveted "Mr. Universe" title.

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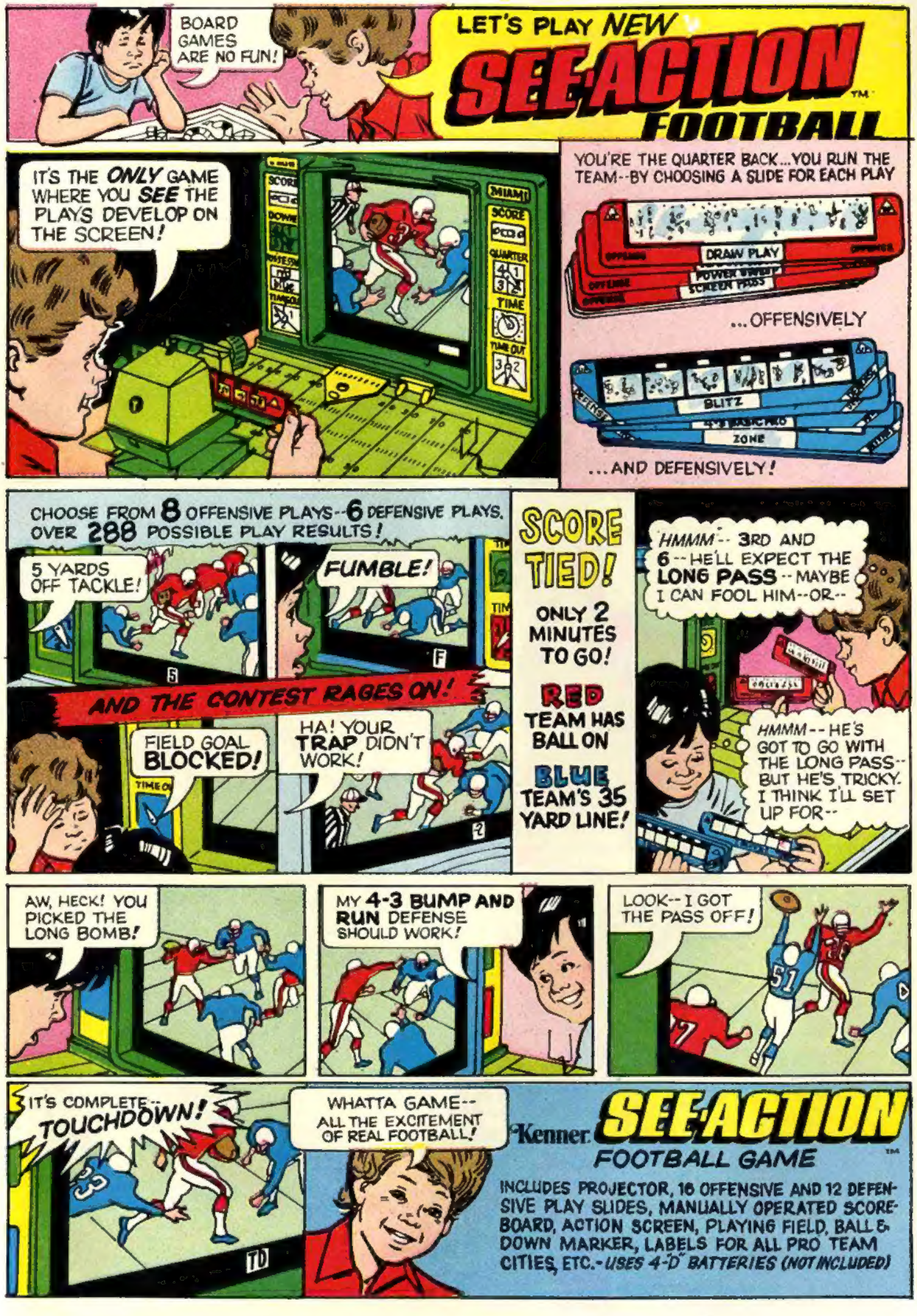
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HMMM--HE'S GOT TO GO WITH THE LONG PASS--BUT HE'S TRICKY. I THINK I'LL SET UP FOR--
AW, HECK! YOU PICKED THE LONG BOMB!
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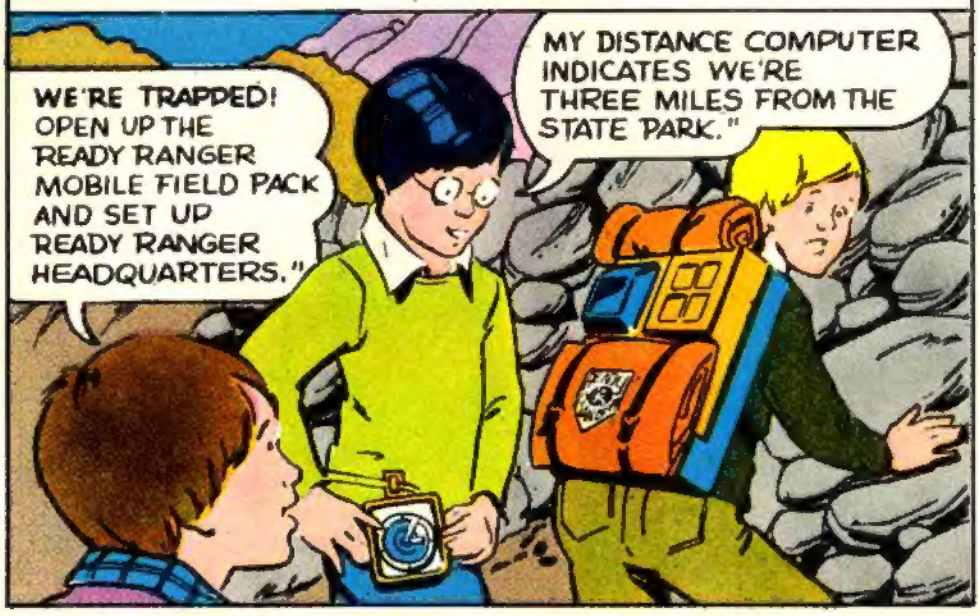
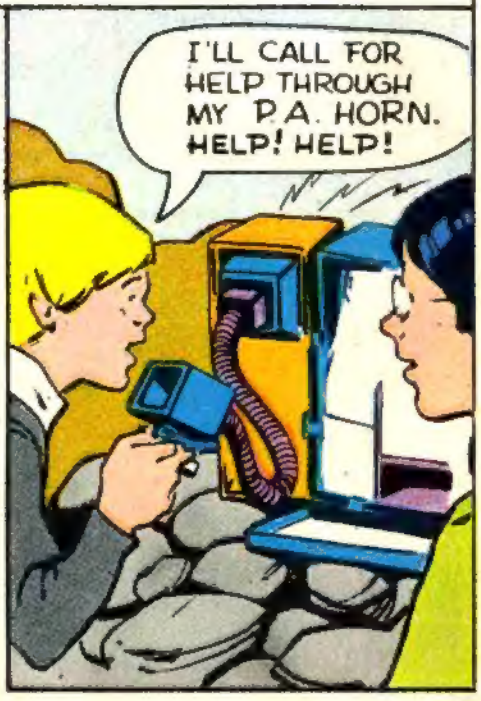
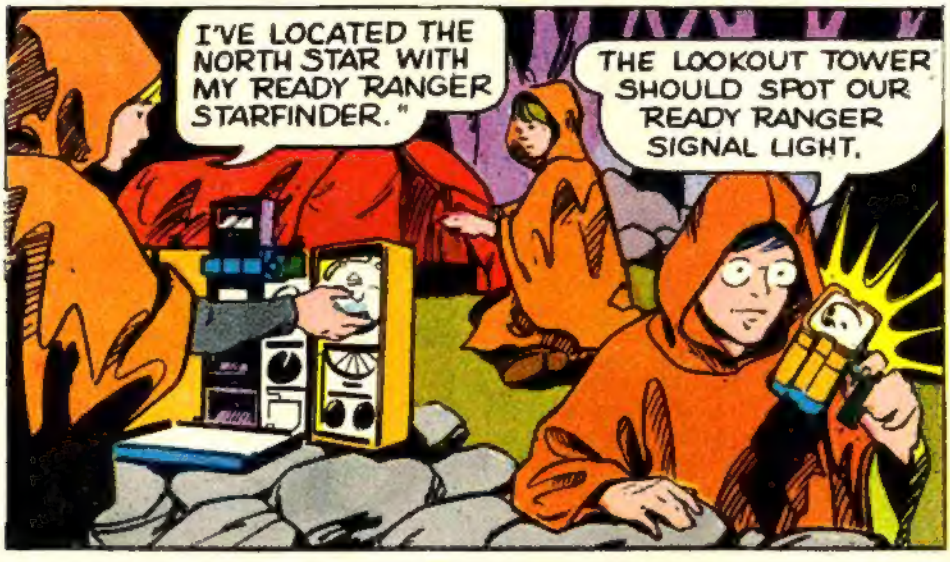

WE'RE TRAPPED! OPEN UP THE READY RANGER MOBILE FIELD PACK AND SET UP READY RANGER HEADQUARTERS."
MY DISTANCE COMPUTER INDICATES WE'RE THREE MILES FROM THE STATE PARK."

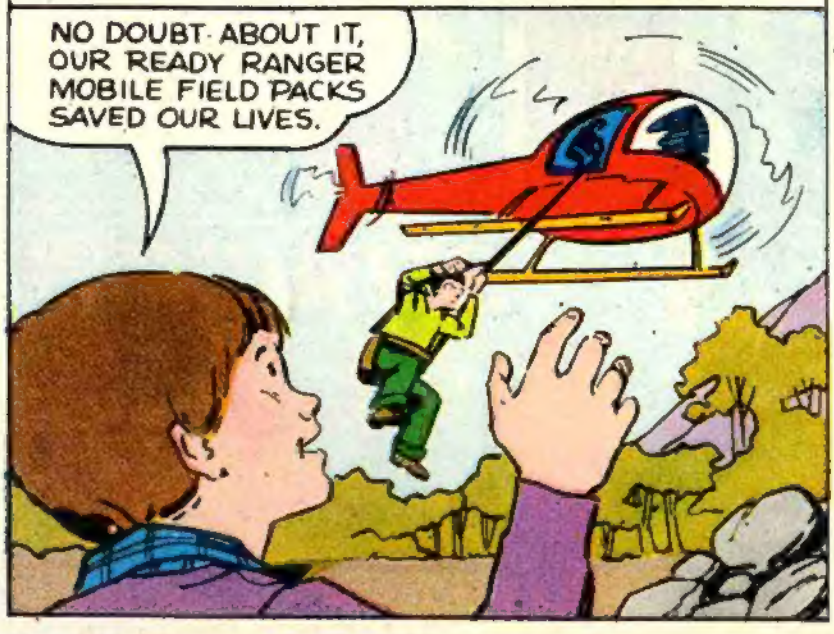


AS NIGHT FALLS, THE RANGERS PITCH THEIR TENTS AND HUDDLE TOGETHER IN THEIR READY RANGER PONCHOS.



AFTER COUNTLESS SIGNALS...

AT DAYBREAK, A HELICOPTER LIFTS THE RANGERS TO SAFETY.



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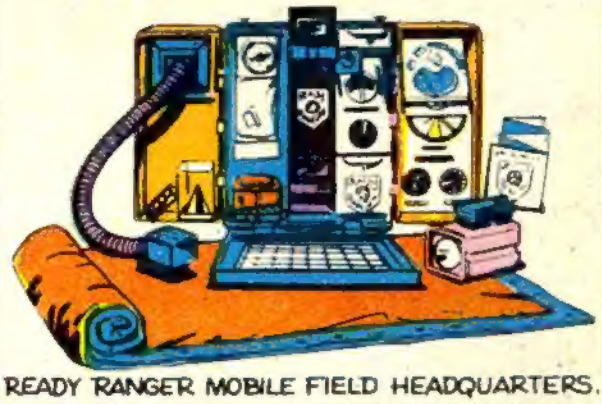

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